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Thursday, May 15, 2014

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METRO FAST-FORWARDS TO 2064, WHEN ROBOTS PUT US ALL OUT OF WORK PAGES 12 & 13

Turkey rages and wails as more bodies leave mine

Use Metro AR to see images of the rescue and protests PAGE 11

T.O.'s turning Japanese, we really think so

Next Music from Tokyo series suggests the Japanese aren't really copying us in North America — we should be copying them PAGE 26

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

City entertains crucial link in bike lane chain

Downtown network.
Pilot project would see dedicated lanes added to Richmond, Adelaide

Cyclists who travel the downtown core are one vote away from having a network of dedicated bike lanes between Bathurst and Sherbourne streets.

On Wednesday, council's public works and infrastructure committee approved a pilot project that could begin as early as this summer. It would see separated bike lanes across Richmond Street and Adelaide Street.

Now council must vote at its June meeting on whether to give the project the green light, connecting existing bike routes on Beverley Street, Sherbourne Street and west of Bathurst Street.

The Richmond-Adelaide project is crucial to allowing the public to get downtown and to the waterfront by bike, said Jared Kolb, executive director of the advocacy group Cycle Toronto on Wednesday.

"If we look back over the past four years ... there are some low points and there are some high points," Kolb said of the committee's work. "Today is one of those high points."

The project would also see several streets get marked with yellow contraflow lanes that would allow cyclists to better travel against vehicle flow on one-way streets.

Coun. Mike Layton, wearing a lapel pin of a bicycle on his blazer, said he was "pleased" the project has come this far.

If approved, the project would be up and running until a report containing recommendations for the future of the lanes is put to council next year.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Pushing farther

A motion to amend the project's area of study to possible connections east of Sherbourne Street was also approved by committee Wednesday.

CANADIENS CARRY ON

A Canadiens fan bellows during Game 7 against the Boston Bruins, viewed on a giant screen in Montreal on Wednesday. The Bell Centre was a sea of red, white and blue as Habs fans packed the arena to watch their team claim a 3-1 victory, 500 kilometres away. More at metronews.ca. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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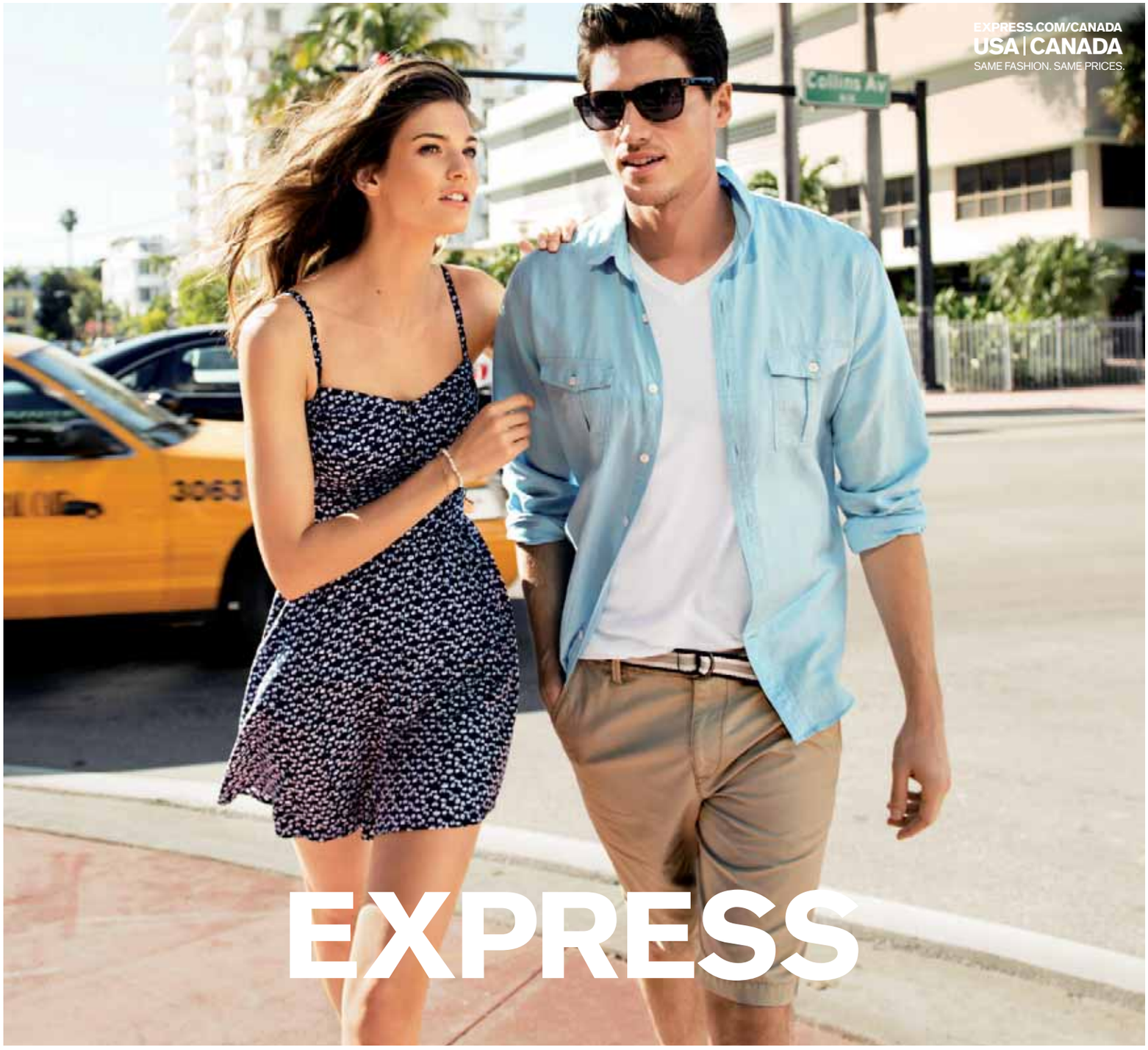

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Private business made public

Solicitation. Brampton mayor has denied city resources were used for her personal initiatives, but documents suggest otherwise

City of Brampton staff have regularly worked on Mayor Susan Fennell's private events — using city resources, during business hours — since 2004, according to documents obtained by Torstar News Service.

The documents are email exchanges that show Fennell and mayor's office staff, as well as one city employee outside her office, used city email accounts to solicit ticket, table and sponsorship sales for the mayor's annual gala and her golf tournament.

Fennell and her staff also used city resources for her private booster group, Mayor Susan Fennell's Community Spirit Team, the documents show.

All three events are private initiatives and are not part of the business of the City of Brampton.

Most of the emails were sent from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. They show that city computers, fax lines, phone lines and offices would have been used by staff while working on the mayor's private events. It's unclear how much staff time was involved.

This year, the rules involving use of staff to organize non-city events were changed to stop the practice, according to John Corbett, Brampton's chief administrative officer.

Fennell has publicly said several times during council meetings that no city resources were used for these events. Fennell also told Torstar in 2010 that no city resources were used for her private initiatives.

The documents obtained by Torstar, however, show that as recently as last year and as far back as 2004, city resources were used.

Fennell did not respond to Torstar's questions.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Email trail

- Documents include dozens of emails sent from the mayor's office, Fennell, Sandra Carpino, who handles the mayor's scheduling, and Mara Ciccotelli, a city employee who works for the economic development department.
- They emailed large developers, smaller businesses, individuals and senior Brampton staff members, soliciting ticket sales and sponsorships for the annual gala and the annual golf tournament.

Court

Trademark suit over Caribana name settled

The Toronto community organization that founded Caribana has settled an $800,000 trademark infringement lawsuit against Scotiabank and the Festival Management Committee (FMC), which now runs the event, for an undisclosed amount.

The Caribana Arts Group launched the suit in 2011, alleging the bank and FMC violated the trademark when it "named and advertised the festival as the 'Scotiabank Caribana Festival,'" beginning in 2008.

Despite repeated requests by the group, according to a statement of claim, the committee continued to use the trademarked name. It wasn't changed until after the group launched the suit against the bank and FMC, which runs the festival with an operating grant from the city. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A medal to call his own

Gilmore Junio poses with his medal at King Edward School after he was presented with a commemorative crowd-sourced Medal of Thanks in Kitchener Wednesday. The medal, made of Canadian maple wood, silver and gold, was conceived by the Toronto design firm Jacknife to thank Junio for his selfless act of stepping aside for teammate Denny Morrison to skate in the 1,000-metre speedskating race at the Sochi Olympics. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Policing

Vancouver does traffic on the cheap

When Vancouver wants to close roads for marathons or divert traffic for other special events, the city calls in its special municipal constables.

They belong to a police unit called the Vancouver Traffic Authority and do a lot of the same kind of work performed by off-duty Toronto police at a fraction of the cost.

In Toronto, a paid-duty cop will soon earn $68 an hour — for a minimum three hours. The hourly rate of pay for a VTA non-unionized traffic constable ranges from $28 to $36.

"It appears to be, obviously, a cheaper way to do than positioning full-time (Vancouver police) members on an overtime basis," Sgt. Randy Fincham said Wednesday from Vancouver.

"I haven't seen any concerns ... or problems with it." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Build exercise into communities: Doctors

Get moving. Medical officers of health call for urban planning that takes focus off the car

The top doctors for Toronto, Peel, Hamilton and Simcoe-Muskoka have joined forces to urge all levels of government to change the way communities are planned to encourage more physical activity.

When it comes to land-use and transportation planning, more consideration must be given to encouraging residents to walk, cycle and use public transit, they told a news conference at Union Station on Wednesday.

"This really is the big public health concern of our time, of our generation. How our communities are shaped, how we move around and the impact it has on the leading causes of death and illness in our society is something that all health organizations are coming to grips with," said Toronto Medical Officer of Health Dr. David McKeown.

Many communities have been built around the car, contributing to sedentary lifestyles, they noted.

Chronic conditions like diabetes, obesity and heart disease are directly related to "having engineered physical activity out of our lives," said Dr. David Mowat, medical officer of health for Peel.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Park life: Soon with more ping-pong?

Dianne Moore plays a friendly game of table tennis with John Moss at a concrete table near St. Mary Street and Bay Street outside of St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto on Wednesday. Moore is a seasoned ping-pong player who wants to build concrete ping-pong tables in every park and schoolyard in the city. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Voting. Higher immigrant population means lower turnout at T.O. polls: Study

The proportion of immigrant and visible minorities in a ward is the strongest predictor of voter turnout, according to a study that traced results in Toronto's last three elections.

While turnout in all 44 wards in the elections was low (mostly below 50 per cent), those with high concentrations of immigrants and minorities were consistently lower than others, according to the study conducted for the Maytree Foundation.

Ryerson University researchers Myer Siemiatycki and Sean Marshall drew that conclusion after comparing turnout in the 2003, 2006 and 2010 elections, and looking at the wards' makeup of immigrants, visible minorities, household income, rental and highrise residences.

"If we are striving for Toronto to be a truly inclusive city, we need to recognize the challenge we face in voters' participation," said Siemiatycki, a professor in politics and public administration. "Candidates must tap into these unengaged voters." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fairview Mall

$10,000 reward offered in robbery of armoured car

A security company is offering a reward of up to $10,000 for the arrest and conviction of those responsible for robbing one of its armoured cars outside a Toronto mall.

Investigators say Garda's security guards were making a delivery on Jan. 20 at Fairview Mall when a silver 2000 Dodge Caravan pulled up alongside and two armed men confronted the guards. Shots were exchanged between the security guards and the suspects but police say there were no reports of anyone being injured. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Don Jail

Lawyer appeals conviction for smuggling drugs

A Toronto lawyer sentenced Wednesday to two years in prison for smuggling drugs into the Toronto (Don) Jail is appealing his conviction with the help of two of the city's top lawyers.

Deryk Gravesande, 61, was charged in 2012 with trafficking drugs to a former client.

The case has hit a nerve among criminal lawyers, who say there's an "epidemic drug problem" in jails and worry about the implications of a guilty verdict for those who visit with their clients in jail.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Liberal Leader Kathleen Wynne, right, and Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion make their way to address the media in Mississauga on Wednesday. Ontario goes to the polls on June 12. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hurricane Hazel endorses Wynne

Nod of approval. Mayor against Hudak's job cuts plan; premier says only her party can work with cities

Decision Ontario

Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion, one of Ontario's most influential and longest-serving mayors, endorsed Liberal Leader Kathleen Wynne's bid for re-election Wednesday, while ripping into proposed cutbacks by the premier's Progressive Conservative rival.

According to McCallion, Tim Hudak's pledge to cut 100,000 public sector jobs would hurt municipal services and residents' "quality of life."

"As a leader, I'm endorsing (Wynne)," said the 93-year-old McCallion, who is not running again this fall after more than 35 years in the mayor's chair.

Speaking in Toronto, Hudak shot back, saying the election will be decided by voters and not city leaders.

While in Mississauga with McCallion, Wynne took the opportunity to talk up what she calls her strong track record of working hand-in-glove with municipalities.

"I believe that it is critical to the well-being of this province that the provincial government work with municipalities," said Wynne, painting the NDP and Tories as coming up short when it comes to dealing with local governments.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Savings' minister would find $600M per year in cuts: NDP

A New Democrat government would appoint a cabinet minister specifically responsible for finding ways to save on government spending, party leader Andrea Horwath said Wednesday.

The goal of the new "savings and accountability" minister would be to find cuts of 0.5 per cent in spending — about $600 million a year on the province's $120-billion annual budget.

"I'm the sort of New Democrat who also believes we need to count the pennies," Horwath said at the legislature.

"There is a lot of waste in the system — I know that for sure."

Sounding at times more like a conservative, Horwath appeared determined to shake the legacy of former NDP premier Bob Rae, whose government from 1990 to 1995 was widely pegged as one that taxed and spent too much.

If citizens are expected to tighten their belts, she said, it's only right that government does the same.

Still, the NDP leader said, she would not go down the path proposed by Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak, who has pledged to slash the public sector.

The NDP, if elected on June 12, is promising to cut eight cabinet ministers and their staff to reduce waste and overlap.

Andrea Horwath
THE CANADIAN PRESS

It would also merge four of the five agencies running the province's electricity system and cap public-sector CEO salaries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tories promise $319 million surplus

Ontario's Progressive Conservatives have laid out a plan to cut program spending by six per cent over the next four years to balance the books and reach a $319-million surplus in 2016-17.

Only health-care spending will increase, with promises to expand the availability of home care and long-term care, allow specialty clinics to provide more services and ensure kids are getting 45 minutes of physical activity every school day.

But they'll eliminate a home renovation tax credit for seniors which was meant to help them stay in their homes longer by installing devices like walk-in tubs.

Ontario PC leader Tim Hudak
THE CANADIAN PRESS

In education, the Tories say they'll increase class sizes, change staffing levels in full-day kindergarten classes and kill a 30 per cent tuition grant for post-secondary students.

They'll also raise targets for reading, writing and math, have a standardized test for Grade 8 science and bring in financial literacy curriculum.

One of the biggest cuts in spending would come from an across-the-board wage freeze for the entire public sector to save about $2.1 billion a year.

The Tories say they'll review all government programs and kill the ones that don't work, in order to save about $1.2 billion over four years.

They'll also make sure union leaders are "transparent and open" with their financial information, like charities and corporations, and allow union members the right to a secret ballot in certification votes.

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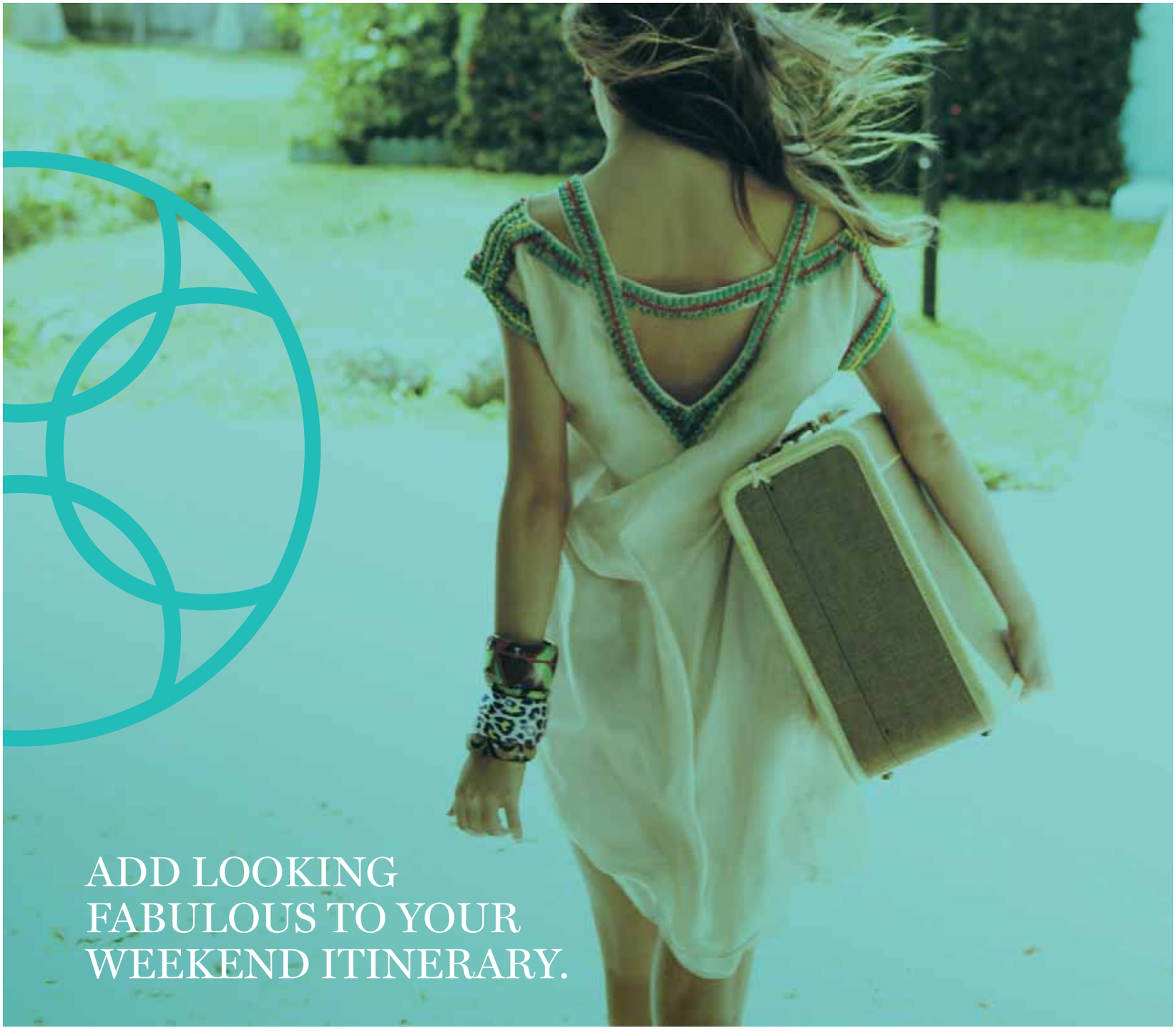

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Group seeks to protect kids working in tobacco farms

Human Rights Watch. The report highlights findings from interviews with over 140 children

An international rights group is pushing the U.S. government and the tobacco industry to take further steps to protect children working on tobacco farms.

A report released Wednesday by Human Rights Watch claims that children as young as seven sometimes work long hours in fields harvesting nicotine and pesticide-laced tobacco leaves under sometimes hazardous conditions. Most of what the group documented is legal, but it wants cigarette makers to push for safety on tobacco farms.

Human Rights Watch details findings from interviews with more than 140 children working on farms in North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia, where a majority of the country's tobacco is grown.

Human Rights Watch met with many of the world's biggest cigarette makers and tobacco suppliers to discuss its findings and push them to adopt or strengthen policies to prevent the practices in their supply chains.

Altria Group Inc., owner of Philip Morris USA, said it wants suppliers to follow the law. But Altria spokesman Jeff Caldwell said that restricting tobacco work to people 18 and over "is really contrary to a lot of the current practices that are in place in the U.S. and is at odds in these communities where family farming is really a way of life."

"The conditions are inhumane and they should improve them," said 17-year-old Erick Garcia, of Kinston, N.C., who has been working in tobacco fields since he was 11 to help his family earn more money.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this 2008 photo, farm workers make their way across a field shrouded in fog as they hoe weeds from a tobacco crop near Warsaw, Ky.

ED REINKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Nigeria. Islamic militants kill 12 soldiers in firefight

Islamic militants again attacked the remote Nigerian town from which nearly 300 schoolgirls were kidnapped, Nigeria's military said Wednesday, resulting in a firefight that killed 12 soldiers and led angry troops to fire on a commanding officer.

Soldiers said the troops fired at a senior officer who came to pay respects to the killed soldiers, whose bodies were brought to a barracks in Maiduguri, the capital of northeastern Borno state, about 130 kilometres north of the town of Chibok, where the girls were abducted a month ago.

The failure of Nigeria's government and military to find them after the April 15 mass abduction has brought mounting national and international outrage and forced Nigeria's government to accept international help.

On Tuesday morning, after learning about an impending attack by the militants, villagers ambushed two trucks with gunmen, according to residents and a security official. At least 10 militants were detained, and scores were killed, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. It was not immediately clear where the detainees were being held.

Vendors sell local newspapers with the headline "I saw my classmate in the video," referring to a Boko Haram video released Monday.

SUNDAY ALAMBA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At least 276 of the schoolgirls are still held captive, with the group's leader threatening to sell them into slavery. In a video released on Monday, he offered to release the girls in exchange for the freedom of jailed Boko Haram members.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Scan the photo below with your Metro News app to see a photo gallery of the mine rescue attempt and protests in Turkey.

Turkey counts its dead

Soma, Turkey. Hope dwindling in search for survivors of coal mine catastrophe

Anger and grief boiled over into a violent protest Wednesday in the western Turkish town of Soma, where officials said at least 245 miners died in a coal mine explosion and fire.

Nearly 450 other miners were rescued, the mining company said, but the fate of an unknown number of others remained unclear in one of the world's deadliest mining disasters in decades.

Tensions were high as hundreds of relatives and miners jostled outside the coal mine waiting for news, countered by a heavy police presence. Rows of women wailed uncontrollably, men knelt sobbing and others just stared in disbelief as rescue workers removed a steady stream of bodies throughout the night and early morning. Others shouted at Turkish officials as they passed by.

In downtown Soma, protesters mostly in their teens and 20s faced off against riot police Wednesday afternoon in front of the ruling NKP party headquarters. Police had gas masks and water cannons. Authorities say the disaster followed an explosion and fire caused by a power distribution unit and the deaths were caused by carbon monoxide poisoning. Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Edrogan promised the tragedy would be investigated to its "smallest detail" and that "no negligence will be ignored."

Erdogan discussed rescue operations with authorities, walked near the entrance of the mine and comforted two crying women. He has appeared less-than-sympathetic in the past, however, saying that death was part of the "profession's fate" after 30 miners died in a 2010 accident.

Mining accidents are common in Turkey, which is plagued by poor safety conditions. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rows of open graves for the mine accident victims are seen in Soma, Turkey, Wednesday. At least two hundred coal miners were killed after a mine explosion. Violent protests have erupted in several Turkish cities, targeting the mine's owners and the national government. In Soma rocks were being thrown and some people were shouting that Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan was a "Murderer!" and a "Thief!" THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/DEPO PHOTOS

Recent fatal mine disasters

2013
Eighty-three workers are buried by a massive landslide at a gold mining site in Tibet.

2012
At least 60 people dead after a landslide at a gold mine in a remote corner of northeast Congo.

2011
Fifty-two people are feared dead in southwestern Pakistan after a gas explosion deep in a coal mine.

2007
At least 90 are killed in post-Soviet Ukraine's worst mining disaster in a coal mine near the eastern city of Donetsk.

2006
65 coal miners are killed from a gas explosion in San Juan de Sabinas, in northern Mexico's Coahuila state.

2005
214 miners die after an explosion deep in a coal shaft in southwestern China.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Psyche test delays murder trial. Pistorius defence implies mental illness

Oscar Pistorius was ordered by a judge on Wednesday to undergo psychiatric tests, meaning that the double-amputee athlete's murder trial will be interrupted, possibly for two months.

The decision by Judge Thokozile Masipa followed a request for a psychiatric evaluation by the chief prosecutor, Gerrie Nel. The prosecutor had said he had no option but to ask for it after an expert witness for the defence testified that Pistorius had an anxiety disorder since childhood that may have influenced his judgment when he fatally shot his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp.

He could be acquitted if it's found that he was not criminally responsible for Steenkamp's shooting because of a mental illness. The judge said it was important to assess his state of mind because of questions raised by the prosecution that Pistorius might argue he was not criminally responsible for the shooting because of his anxiety disorder.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oscar Pistorius leaves court in Pretoria, South Africa.
THEMBA HADEBE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington

WikiLeaker may receive gender hormone therapy

In an unprecedented move, the Pentagon is trying to transfer convicted national security leaker Pvt. Chelsea Manning to a civilian prison so she can get treatment for her gender disorder, defence officials said.

Manning, formerly named Bradley, was convicted of sending classified documents to anti-secrecy website WikiLeaks. The soldier has asked for hormone therapy and to be able to live as a woman.

Transgender people are not allowed to serve in the U.S. military and the Defence Department does not provide such treatment, but Manning can't be discharged from the service while serving her 35-year prison sentence.

The former intelligence analyst was sentenced in August for six Espionage Act violations and 14 other offences.

After the conviction, Manning announced the desire to live as a woman and to be called Chelsea.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Year 2064: Robot waiters

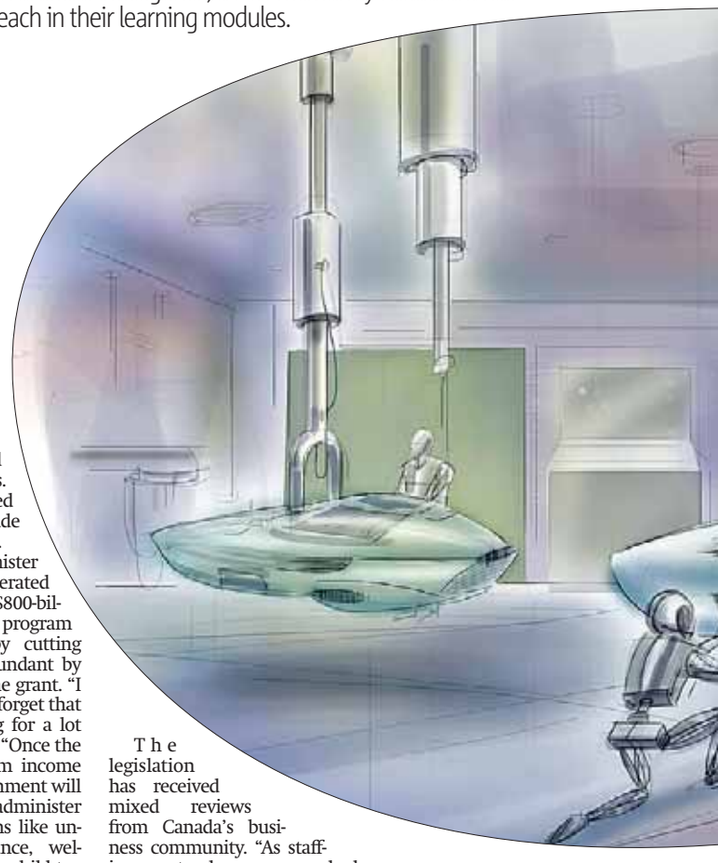
Today in 2064, the federal government is grappling with record unemployment levels due to leaps in artificial intelligence; a Fort McMurray restaurant has made a controversial move to hire human wait staff; and schools are under fire for a security breach in their learning modules.

Bill aims to tackle record jobless rate

Guaranteed Income Act. Parliament moves to compromise on bill that will pump money into an economy stalled by 50 per cent jobless rate

Find out the real story

- We didn't just make this stuff up! These stories are fictional extrapolations of research occurring right now. Go to metronews.ca/features/metro-2064 and read about Rice University in Houston's computer scientist Dr. Moshe Vardi and his predictions on how artificial intelligence will impact our workforce.



LUKE SIMCOE
Metro Online

A bill that would guarantee every Canadian a basic income — regardless of whether they have a job — took a step closer to fruition Wednesday, as the governing Newer Democratic Party introduced amendments to placate the Opposition.

Proposed changes include indexing the minimum income to inflation, tax credits for companies that hire human workers and stricter requirements on who can apply.

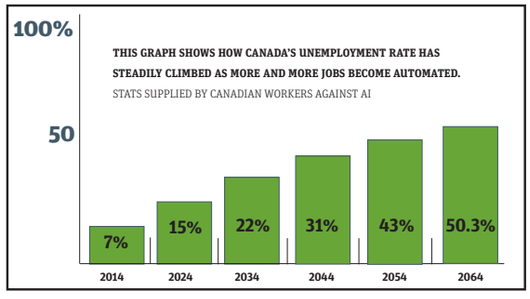
"The viability of the Canadian economy should transcend partisan bickering," NDP Leader Christina Sandberg said in a holocast with reporters. "We're willing to meet the Neo-Conservatives halfway, but it's up to them to show Canadians they care more about the fortunes of people than robots."

The original bill was unveiled in 2063, less than three weeks after news broke that Canada's unemployment rate had tipped the scales at 50.3 per cent. The historic jobless numbers — driven largely by automation in the manufacturing and service sectors — sent the economy into a tailspin.

"What's the incentive for companies to make products or offer services if the majority of the population can't afford to buy them?" Bank of Canada president Tomas Grant intoned the day after the numbers were released.

The Opposition Neo-Conservative Party initially balked at the proposed Guaranteed Income Act, with leader Rich Wyteman calling it "a complete capitulation to socialism." However, in recent weeks there have been signs the party may have softened its stance.

Without some support from the Neo-Conservatives, the minority NDP won't have enough votes in Parliament to pass the legislation. In a bid to get the bill to second reading, the NDP introduced a watered-down version in the House Wednesday. The planned corporate tax hike, which experts say is necessary to fund the program, has been reduced to 50 per cent from 65 per cent, and access to the program would be restricted to Canadian citizens. The NDP wanted coverage to include permanent residents.



NDP Finance Minister Brent Francis reiterated that nearly half the $800-billion cost of the program would be found by cutting programs made redundant by the minimum income grant. "I think a lot of people forget that we're already paying for a lot of this," Francis said. "Once the guaranteed minimum income is in place, the government will no longer have to administer and pay for programs like unemployment insurance, welfare, skills training or child tax credits."

It remains to be seen whether the Neo-Conservatives will lend their support to the amended bill, or if they will provide an alternative solution to Canada's increasingly imbalanced economy. "Every day the government fails to act, more Canadian families suffer," said Kwame Johansen, an anti-poverty activist in Ottawa. "The economy has changed irrevocably, and we as a country need to change with it."

The legislation has received mixed reviews from Canada's business community. "As staffing costs have approached zero, we've seen profit margins soar in our industry," said Kevin Kelly, chair of the Canadian Restaurant Association.

"If this policy gets more people shopping and eating out, our members are confident that any losses from higher taxes will be offset by increased revenues.

"This is nothing but a tax on success," countered Chad Hanson, CEO of OfficeBot Industries, an Ontario-based company that supplies custom worker software to the finance industry.

"Not only will this discourage companies from investing in Canada, it will discourage Canadians from getting the skills and education they need to thrive in this new economy."

Johansen called Hanson's comments "misleading."

"The era of big corporate tax cuts and incentives is over," he said. "It made sense back when these companies created jobs in Canada, but not now."

Robot redundancy. NGO voices health concerns over Alberta restaurant's decision to hire human wait staff

An upscale eatery in Alberta is cooking up controversy by hiring human wait staff.

Tailing Ponds, a seafood restaurant in an affluent Fort McMurray neighbourhood, recently replaced its robot servers with humans in a bid to attract more clientele.

"With the invention of robo-servers, dining has become increasingly impersonal," said Frida Williams, the restaurant's owner. "We believe there's a market for fine dining with a personalized, human touch."

Having to pay human staff is expected to double the restaurant's expenses, but Williams is confident her customers will shell out more to have their haddock served by a real person. Despite the initial capital investment in robo-servers, the cost of human servers is greater over time, Williams said.

"Our market research shows that not only do people prefer human staff, they're also willing to pay a premium for that experience," she said.

The move has caught the attention of the Alberta Sanitation Society (ASS), a health-based NGO that sprang up in the wake of the wake of the deadly H9N1 outbreak in 2029.

Members of the group protested via holocast outside of Tailing Ponds on Wednesday. "They may think this is a novelty, but having people handle your food is a prime vector for disease transmission," said ASS activist Lindsey Hubler. "These diners might as well be eating their meals off of the floor."

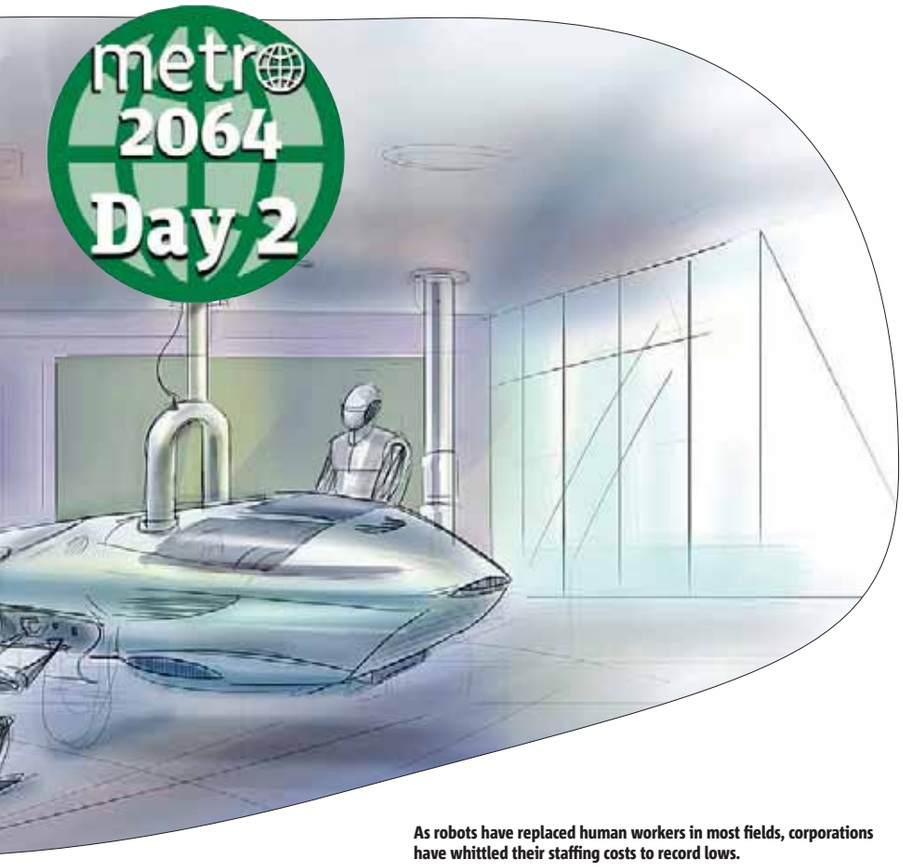
Williams said the restaurant has complied with all municipal health bylaws, and stressed that the servers have little contact with the food.

"Every meal is cooked personally by our Italian-made robot chef," she said.

LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

Tailing Ponds restaurant is getting rid of their robot wait staff and replacing them with humans in a bid to attract more clientele. YURIDIGITAL.COM

and 50% unemployment



As robots have replaced human workers in most fields, corporations have whittled their staffing costs to record lows.
ILLUSTRATION/ALEXANDRA NEWBOULD

LURID SEX SCENE IN EDUCATION PROGRAM OUTRAGES PARENTS

DEENA DOUARA
metronews.ca

Parents are expressing outrage after it was revealed on Wednesday that hackers had broken into LemonadeStand#2, a popular children's teaching module, and added a disturbing sex scene.

"This raises real concerns. I don't even know what to tell them," said Esmerelda, who says her children had previously taken courses in the LemonadeStand#2 program.

The hacked software was discovered when an eight-year-old student attending Canopy Childminding Centre in Auckland, Australia, asked her facilitator why a young couple was naked in the Lemonade Stand module. The facilitator, Madiha Osman, says she blocked the module from the system and notified education officials at 4DEdu immediately.

"I was shocked," Osman told Metro. "At least the older students will be used to seeing such things but I don't want to be the one to explain sex to the younger ones. What if the couple asked the child to join them?"

Hackers have broken into LemonadeStand#2. SHUTTERSTOCK

She says children from seven to 12 years old typically access the program developed by the private education firm, with most users being around eight or nine. The module takes anywhere from two to six months to complete and the scene in question was discovered nearly halfway through the course.

It is unclear at this point when the program was hacked, but officials told Metro they are investigating.

"We seriously doubt that this intrusion could have been inserted very long ago without any students mentioning it," said Education Canada's Deputy Minister Indira McKallie, "but we are working with 4DEdu and with police to pinpoint a timeline and safeguard against intrusions in other programs."

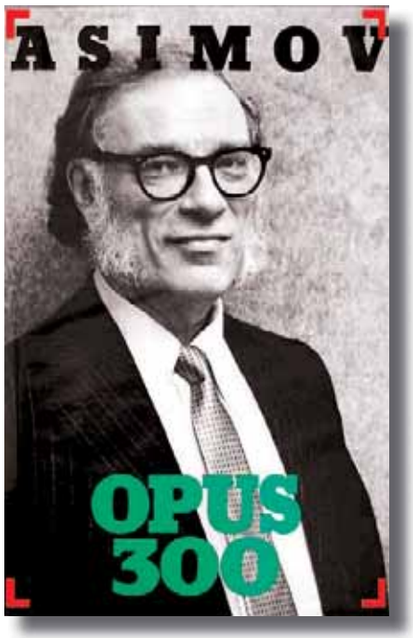
Parents say the response is not good enough. "What changes in security have they made since the war hacking?" said Chwinabe Okafor, head of the Urban Canadian Parents Association (UCPA). "The ministry has to be held responsible for what our children are experiencing. I wonder how they would feel if it was their kid interacting with the couple."

Police say the student was physically unharmed but they are working with 4DEdu to determine if any other children were touched or otherwise engaged with inappropriately. Counselors will also be working with the students.

LemonadeStand#2 is available in 38 countries and is a Business 1, Math 3, Reading 2, and Fitness 1 level program optimized for left-brain auditory learners, with Math and Fitness levels being adjustable.

Find out the real story

- These stories are fictional extrapolations of predictions from experts. Go to metronews.ca/features/metro-2064 to read what education specialist John Kershaw and senior education strategist Joe Wilson think will happen to the way we educate students in the future.



Isaac Asimov is considered one of the most prolific and talented science fiction writers of all time. Asimov, who died in 1992, wrote over 500 books and made sometimes eerily accurate predictions about what our future might look like. In this interview from almost 30 years ago, Asimov talks about a system of learning that uses a tool that sounds an awful lot like the Internet. See for yourself.

metro AR

See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo with your Metro News app to watch an interview with Isaac Asimov.

Education

Calls for oversight in wake of intrusions

A number of intrusions in the past few years have led parents to campaign for greater government oversight of 4DEdu and Sail Global, the two largest education firms in the market. In March of last year it was discovered that operatives had hacked into a New Canadian Bank-sponsored B15M11 module that would lead students to conclude the bank was responsible for the market crash of 2018. Two years ago, three German hackers were discovered to have made a number of intrusions into three Second World War modules, nearly erasing any mention of concentration camps. Twelve countries in Asia have long held screening laws to ensure purchased programs have been viewed and secured by an external body before reaching students. The UCPA has not yet called for such extreme measures but are working with ministry officials to find appropriate safeguards.

Storms migrating en masse out of tropics, study finds

Not in the Atlantic region. Storms drift northward only 6.5 km a decade, which just could be random, researcher says

Tropical cyclones worldwide are moving out of the tropics and more toward the poles and generally larger populations, likely because of global warming, a new study finds. Atlantic hurricanes, however, don't follow this trend.

While other studies have looked at the strength and frequency of the storms, which are called hurricanes in North America, this is the first study that looks at where they are geographically when they peak. It found in the last 30 years, tropical cyclones, regardless of their size, are peaking 53 kilometres farther north each decade in the Northern Hemisphere and 61 kilometres farther south each decade in the Southern Hemisphere. That means about 160 kilometres toward the more populous mid-latitudes since 1982, the starting date for the study released Wednesday by the journal Nature.

"The storms en masse are migrating out of the tropics," said study lead author James Kossin of the National Climatic Data Center and the University of Wisconsin.

Kossin and colleagues say the changes start with man-made global warming, which alters air circulation from the tropics to just farther north and south. In the tropics, those changes increase upper atmosphere wind shifts called shear that weaken cyclone development. At higher latitudes the changes decrease the storm-decapitating shear, making those areas more favourable for storm intensification.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Japan region

In the region where Japan tracks cyclones, they are peaking 68 kilometres farther north each decade. That means cyclones that used to hit their strongest around the same latitude as the northern Philippines are now peaking closer to Hong Kong, Taiwan, Shanghai, Japan and South Korea.

Tourists lend helping hand

Foreign tourists help to release a sea turtle to the ocean on a beach in Bali, Indonesia, Wednesday. With the help of tourists, Bali police released about a dozen turtles that they seized last month from illegal poachers. FIRDIA LISNAWATI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Space Station

Russia takes tussle with U.S. to space

NASA is downplaying Russian deputy prime minister Dmitry Rogozin's statements that Russia wouldn't continue co-operating with the United States on the 15-nation International Space Station past 2020, as NASA had hoped, because of U.S. sanctions on Moscow. The United States relies on Russian Soyuz capsules to fly to and from the station. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

California

Study: Irrigation raises quake risk

Excessive groundwater pumping for irrigation in California's agricultural belt, which is causing the San Joaquin Valley floor to sink, can stress the San Andreas Fault, potentially increasing the risk of future small earthquakes, a study released by the journal Nature suggests. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ukraine launches peace talks — sans foes

Insurgents left out. 'Ready for a dialogue,' says president, but not with pro-Russia gunmen

Ukraine's government launched talks Wednesday on decentralizing power as part of a European-backed peace plan but didn't invite its main foes, the pro-Russia insurgents who have declared independence in the east.

That deliberate oversight left it unclear whether the negotiations might help cool the tensions in the east.

In his opening remarks, acting President Oleksandr Turchynov said authorities were "ready for a dialogue" but insisted they will not talk to the pro-Russia gunmen who have seized buildings and fought government troops across eastern Ukraine.

"Let's have a dialogue, let's discuss specific proposals," Turchynov said, "But those armed people who are trying to wage a war on their own country, those who are with arms in their hands trying to dictate their will, or rather the will of another country, we will use legal procedures against them and they will face justice."

Insurgents in the east shrugged off the round-table talks as meaningless.

"We haven't received any offers to join a round table and dialogue," Denis Pushilin, an insurgent leader in Donetsk. "If the authorities in Kyiv want a dialogue, they must come here. If we go to Kyiv, they will arrest us." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Ukrainian miner at the Kalinin mine in Horlivka, Wednesday. The Ukrainian government launched peace talks Wednesday. EVGENIY MALOLETKA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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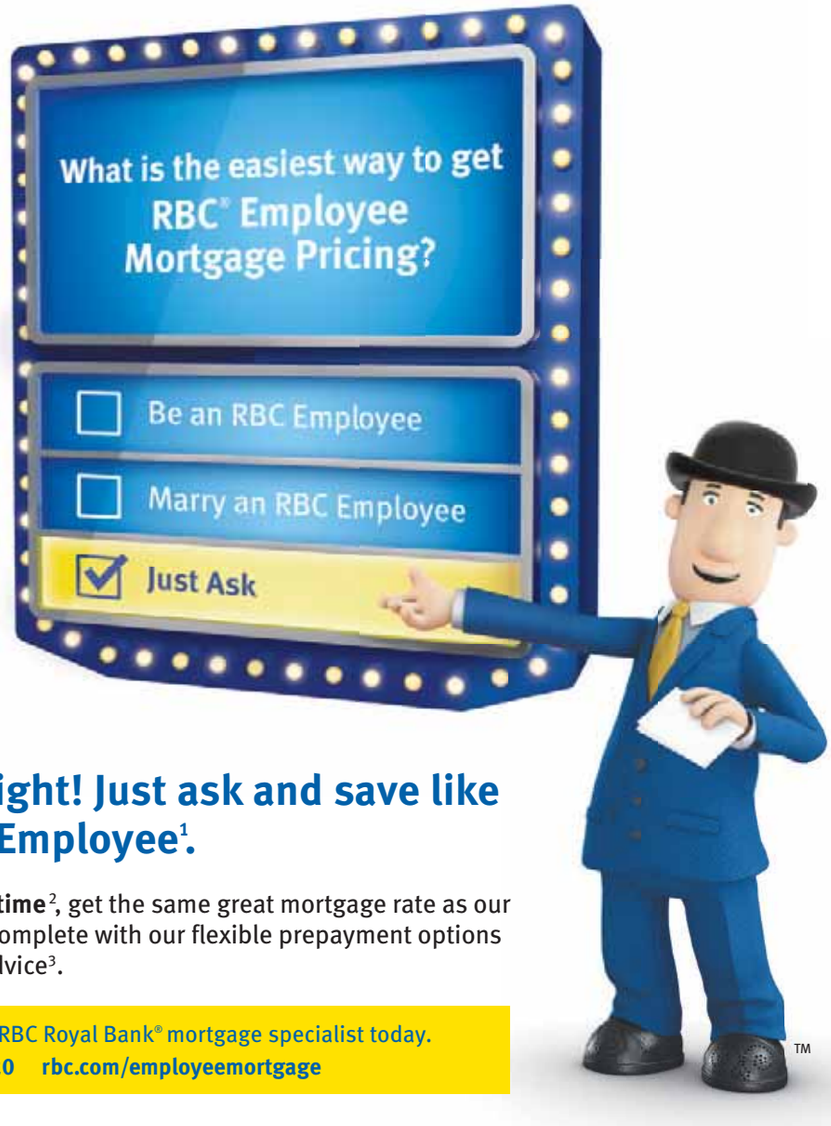

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'Miracle baby.' Toddler that fell 11 storeys critical, but expected to survive

A young boy dubbed "the miracle baby" remained in critical condition but was expected to survive after falling 11 storeys from a high-rise in Minneapolis, Minn.

Fifteen-month-old Musa Dayib suffered a broken spine and ribs as well as a concussion and a punctured lung. Musa's relatives believe he slipped through the balcony's railing Sunday evening.

Hennepin County Medical Center spokeswoman Christine Hill says the boy was in critical but stable condition Wednesday.

Dr. Tina Slusher of the hospital's pediatric intensive care unit said that Musa landed on a small patch of mulch.

Members of the Somali-American community say they are raising money for the family. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wildfire season heats up

A police officer turns traffic away as flames leap behind him Wednesday in Carlsbad, Calif. Flames engulfed suburban homes and shot up along canyon ridges in one of the worst of several blazes that broke out Wednesday in Southern California during a second day of a sweltering heat wave. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Former editor says he hacked Kate's phone

Kate Middleton GETTY IMAGES FILE

The former royal editor of the News of the World said Wednesday that he repeatedly hacked the voicemails of Prince William, Prince Harry and Kate Middleton in the months before he was arrested for illegal eavesdropping in 2006.

Under cross examination at Britain's phone hacking trial, Clive Goodman acknowledged he had listened to Middleton's voicemails 155 times, Prince William's 35 times and Prince Harry's nine times.

Goodman was briefly jailed in 2007, along with private investigator Glenn Mulcaire, for hacking the phones of royal aides. But Goodman said police and prosecutors never asked him if he had also targeted members of the royal family.

"I have been as open and honest about hacking as I can be, but nobody has asked me any questions about this before," said Goodman, 56.

Earlier in the trial the jury was read transcripts of intercepted phone messages between William and Kate from the days when they were courting. She became the Duchess of Cambridge when they married in 2011.

Goodman said Kate was first targeted in late 2005, when she was becoming "a figure of increasing importance around the royal family."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Smoke-Free Areas in City Parks

Whether you play sports, spend time at a swimming beach or watch Shakespeare in the park, you're now protected from exposure to second-hand smoke by a municipal bylaw.

The following outdoor spaces in City parks are now smoke-free:

- Sports fields
- Skateboard or BMX parks
- Ski and snowboard hills
- Swimming pools or decks
- Covered picnic shelters or gazebos
- Theatre spaces
- Swimming beaches
- Waiting areas or service lines

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Mohamed Harkat and his wife Sophie Lamarche Harkat leave the Supreme Court of

High court ruling on

Opening door to deportation. Court rejects terror suspect's constitutional challenge of security certificate

The Supreme Court of Canada has upheld the national security certificate against terror suspect Mohamed Harkat, opening the door to the next step in deporting him.

The high court also rejected Harkat's constitutional challenge of the security certificate regime, unanimously ruling that the process — while not perfect — is consistent with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

"It's difficult to put it in words," Harkat's lawyer Norm Boxall said Wednesday after the decision was released. "I can't think of another word to say, other than it was devastating."

Added Harkat's wife, Sophie, as she and her husband were getting into a car to leave: "We will fight them all the way."

Harkat, 45, has said he could face torture if returned to his native Algeria, raising questions about how, when or even if he

Halifax

Teens accused of kidnapping friend, forcing him to steal

Three teens from the Halifax area face charges after they allegedly kidnapped another young man and ordered him to commit robberies.

The RCMP say the 19-year-old victim was arrested Monday after he walked into a convenience store in Windsor, N.S., and told the clerk he was being forced to commit a robbery and to call police.

Sgt. Anthony Pompeo says the kidnapping was not random and the victim was friends with the three suspects.

The victim was not hurt and is not facing any charges.

Pompeo says the man was forced into a car in the suburb of Lower Sackville earlier in the day and threatened with violence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada Wednesday in Ottawa. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

upholds Harkat

will be removed from Canada.

The former pizza delivery man was taken into custody in Ottawa in December 2002 on suspicion of being an al-Qaida sleeper agent. He denies any involvement with terrorism.

The federal government is trying to deport the Algerian refugee on a security certificate — a seldom-used tool in immigration law for removing non-citizens suspected of extremism or espionage.

Harkat's lawyers argued the process was unfair because the person named in a security certificate doesn't see the full case against them.

In its ruling, the Supreme Court said the security certificate regime does not violate the person's right to know and challenge the allegations they face. However, the high court provided detailed guidance on applying the process to ensure it is fair.

Federal Court Justice Simon Noel ruled in 2010 that there were grounds to believe Harkat is a security threat who maintained ties to Osama bin Laden's terror network after coming to Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ohio

No more kids for deadbeat dad: Appeals court

An Ohio appeals court has upheld a judge's order that a father can't have more kids until he pays his back child support.

The decision this week by the appeals court didn't provide an opinion about whether the judge's order was appropriate. Instead the appeals court said it didn't have enough information to decide the merits of the case without a copy of the pre-sentence report detailing Asim Taylor's background.

In January 2013, Judge James Walther said Taylor couldn't have more children while he is on probation for five years. The judge said the order would be lifted if Taylor pays nearly $100,000 US in overdue support for his four children. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trudeau urged to drop abortion benchmark

The Roman Catholic archbishop of Toronto is asking Justin Trudeau to reconsider his decision to bar would-be Liberal candidates who do not endorse the party policy on abortion.

Cardinal Thomas Collins wrote to the Liberal leader Wednesday to say he is deeply concerned about the controversy.

Collins said he understands the need for party discipline, but questions whether that discipline can extend to matters of conscience.

"Political leaders surely have the right to insist on party unity and discipline in political matters which are within the legitimate scope of their authority," Collins wrote.

"But that political authority is not limitless: it does not extend to matters of conscience and religious faith. It does not govern all aspects of life."

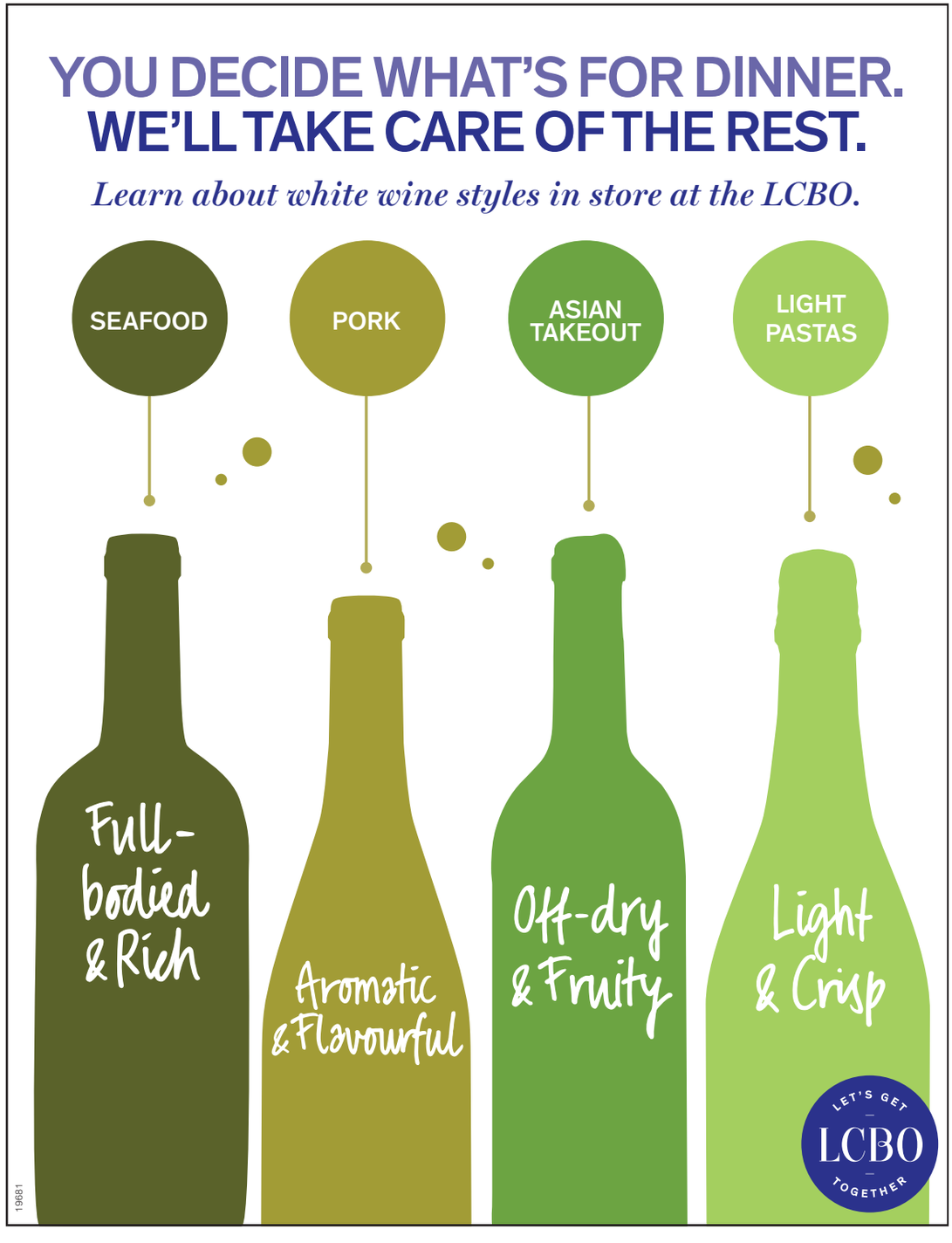
Trudeau has said the party won't accept new candidates who are not pro-choice on abortion, although sitting MPs will be allowed to run even if they oppose the practice.

"As a party, we are steadfast in our belief ... that it is not for any government to legislate what a woman chooses to do with her body, and that is the bottom line there," Trudeau said last week.

"I have made it clear that future candidates need to be completely understanding that they will be expected to vote pro-choice on any bills."

In his letter, the cardinal reminded Trudeau — who was raised in the Catholic faith of his famous father — that the patron saint of politicians, Thomas More, was executed for following his conscience against the political authority of his day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



RAISE A TOAST TO VICTORIA

MAKE MOST OF YOUR LONG WEEKEND

Barbecues, beer and belly laughs.

What are you doing this Victoria Day weekend?

If you are like most Canadians, you will be celebrating in one way or another. And after the long winter of 2014, it's safe to say that most people are in need of a fun and relaxing get-together with friends and family.

Here's how to make the most of your Victoria Day weekend this year.

1 ***SAY "YES" TO THAT COTTAGE INVITE.*** Tell your friend (or family member) that you would love to come for the weekend. Offer to bring your own bedding, a breakfast and dinner, and anything else they might need.

2 ***MEET UP WITH FRIENDS.*** It doesn't matter what you do together (see a movie, go shopping, have brunch) do it in person. Save Twitter and Facebook for another day.

3 ***EMBRACE THE OUTDOORS.*** Camping over the Victoria Day weekend is a tradition for some people. Be sure to pack layers, a guitar, lots of good food, and your pillow. It will be a blast.

SHUTTERSTOCK

4 ***TRY SOMETHING NEW, SUCH AS FISHING.*** Grab a fishing rod and some bait, and head to Tommy Thompson Park, Grenadier Pond, or the Toronto Islands.

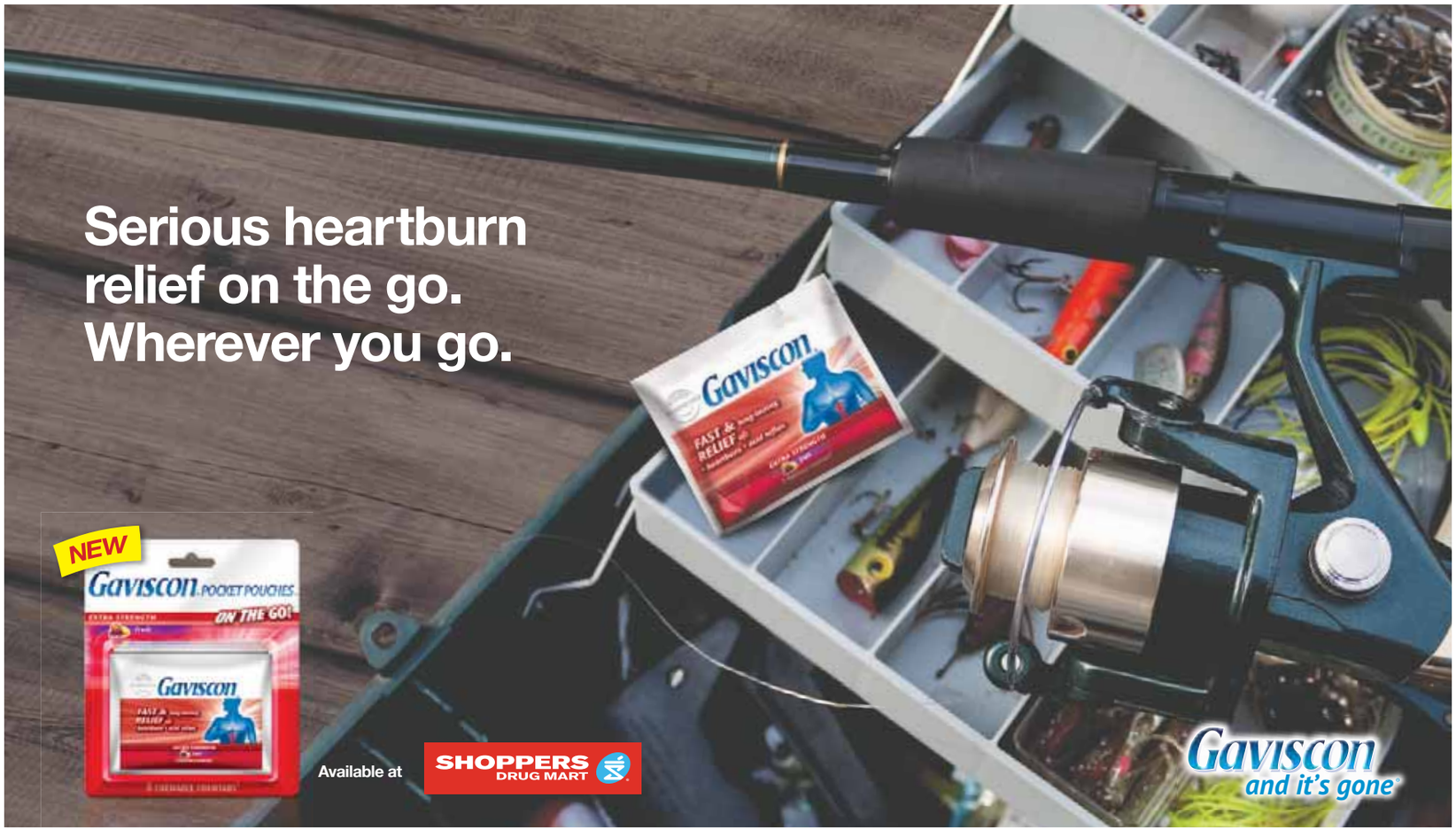
5 ***SCARE YOURSELF A LITTLE.*** Take a hike and opt for the advanced route, take a lesson at a climbing gym, or take the Edge Walk at the CN Tower.

6 ***GET OUTSIDE.*** Visit a conservation area or park (and bring a kite), walk along a shoreline, or explore a new neighbourhood.

7 ***PLAN A PARTY.*** Make your favourite burgers, toss a salad, and crack open a beer. It's the weekend. At the end of the day, the most important part of the weekend is kicking back with people you enjoy, having a few laughs on the patio, shooting the breeze around the barbecue while the steaks sizzle, and sitting together on the deck telling tales as the sun goes down.

WEEKEND PARTY ESSENTIALS KIT

- **DRINK:** Beer is the time-honoured tradition, but cider, a summer rosé or the makings for a cocktail will be enjoyable, too. Rum is poised to be the next trendy spirit.
- **CHAIRS:** Foldable lawn or camping chairs are usually welcome.
- **PROTECTION:** Sunscreen, a hat and sunglasses.
- **PERSONAL STUFF:** Phone, cab fare, and heartburn medication (just in case).



Who let the dogs out? 6 pups believed stolen from dog walker's truck

Langley, B.C. Police say the owners believe that the six dogs were taken from the back of a truck

THANDI FLETCHER
Metro in Vancouver

Four of the six dogs believed to have been stolen from a dog walker's truck in Langley on Tuesday. COURTESY LANGLEY RCMP

Mounties in Langley are hunting for clues as to who may have taken six hounds from the back of a dog walker's pickup truck Tuesday.

Police are asking the public to be on the lookout for the dogs believed stolen after the dog walker left them in the back of her pickup truck to use the washroom, said Langley RCMP Const. Holly Marks.

The dog walker had taken the dogs to an off-leash dog park in Brookswood. When she returned 10 minutes later, the truck's canopy was unlatched and the dogs were gone, said Marks. The dog walker searched the area for hours but wasn't able to locate any of them, she said. Her truck was parked in the 4400 block of 206 Street in Langley.

The missing dogs include a black and white pit bull named Mia; a grey Bouvier-poodle cross named Teemo; a black and white Boston Terrier named Buddy; a border collie named Salty; Oscar the black and brown Rottweiler-husky cross; and Molly, a grey and black-coloured blue heeler-German shepherd cross (not pictured).

Marks said the owners believe the dogs were taken and did not escape from the truck.

As a dog lover herself, she said she hopes the owners are reunited soon with their furry family members.

For more information and photos of the dogs, visit facebook.com/missingpetsinBC

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Palestinians mark 66th anniversary of Nakba

Holy Land claims. The founding of a country for Israelis is remembered as a 'catastrophe' by Palestinians

Palestinian orphans rehearse a traditional Palestinian dance "Dabka" at Baqaa Refugee Camp, to perform on Thursday, to mark the 66th anniversary of what the Palestinians call the "Nakba," or catastrophe of their uprooting in the war over Israel's 1948 creation.

MOHAMMAD HANNON / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A 1975 photo shows Palestinian refugee Fathiyeh Sattari, her eyes wide with worry, as she presents her malnourished baby boy to a doctor at a clinic run by a UN aid agency.

The photo is one of 525,000 in the agency's archive being digitized to preserve a record of one of the world's most entrenched refugee problems, created in what the Palestinians call the "Nakba," or catastrophe: their uprooting in the war over Israel's 1948 creation.

As Palestinians mark the Nakba's 66th anniversary Thursday, the photos tell the story of the transition from temporary to seemingly permanent refugee crisis. Tent camps of the 1950s have turned into urban slums with some alleys so narrow residents can only walk single file past drab multi-storey buildings.

The mother and son of the 1975 photo are part of a family now in its fourth generation of refugee status. Sattari's parents fled their home in what is now Israel in 1948.

Fathiyeh was born in the Gaza Strip and raised her own family in the Rafah refugee camp. Her son Hassan is now a 40-year-old father of five, living in another camp.

They appear resigned to never being able to return to their ancestral home. Hassan said he doesn't believe Israel would ever agree to take back large numbers of refugees who, along with their descendants, now number more than five million across the Middle East.

According to UN figures, more than 700,000 Palestinians fled or were driven out in the 1948 Mideast war, many settling in the neighbouring West Bank, Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. Tens of thousands more were displaced in the 1967 war in which Israel captured the West Bank, Gaza and east Jerusalem, lands the Palestinians seek for a state.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York

Artist donates Malala portrait for Pakistani girls' education

A portrait of a young Pakistani girl who was shot by the Taliban for campaigning for girls' education is being sold to help further her cause.

Jonathan Yeo, a leading British portraitist, painted Malala Yousafzai in 2013.

Christie's auction house is offering the Malala portrait on Wednesday. It has a presale estimate of $60,000 to $80,000. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistan

Quranic teacher, friends arrested for gang-rape

Pakistani police arrested a teacher at a Quranic school and his two friends on charges of gang raping a college student in the country's northwest.

The case against Qari Naseer, 27, in the city of Mansehra marks a rare rape arrest in Pakistan, where prosecutions are few. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Beginning of the end.
After 62 years in Canada Sears likely to disappear

Sears is considering selling its struggling Canadian operations, a move that will likely lead to the closure of its brick-and-mortar stores in this country and make room for a new retailer to enter the market.

The U.S. parent company, owned by Sears Holdings in Chicago and controlling shareholder Edward Lampert, said Wednesday it was looking at strategic options for its 51 per cent interest in Sears Canada, including the possible sale.

While Sears Canada says it will co-operate with the Sears Holdings review and insists its Canadian stores will continue to operate as usual, observers see the move as the beginning of the end.

"I'm not sure that we're going to have the Sears brand in Canada because I'm not sure that anybody wants to buy the operating business; it's underinvested," said Mark Satov, founder of Satov Consultants Inc. in Toronto.

"There are some people in a different age category that probably have a habit of going there and will miss it to some degree, just like people miss going to the restaurant at Zellers and having coffee all day when Zellers became Target, but (beyond that) I don't think they're relevant."

Sears is considering selling its Canadian operations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The company is in the midst of a three-year turnaround plan and has sold leases to some of its most prominent locations, many of which will reopen as upscale Nordstrom department stores within the next two years. It has also announced 2,200 job cuts since January, on top of thousands more that it laid off last year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

North America

Netflix accounts for hug chunk of e-traffic, says study

Netflix increased its share of fixed-line Internet traffic in North America in the first half of 2014, accounting for 34 per cent of data flowing to consumers during peak times, up from 32 per cent in the latter half of 2013.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

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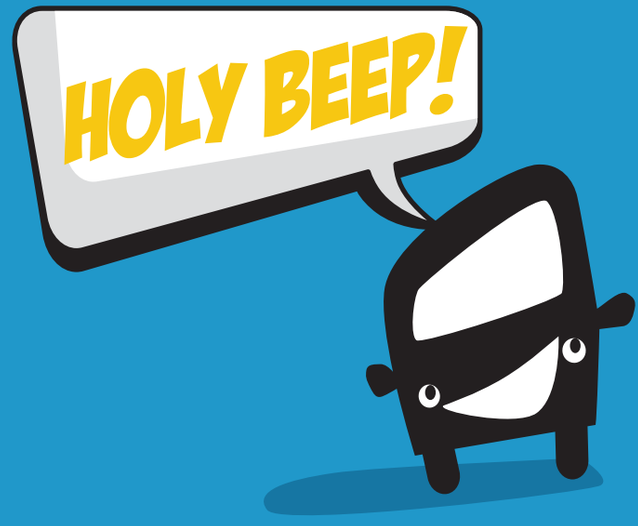

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Save the dolphins: EU aims to put an end to 'walls of death'

European Union.
Proposal aims to ban driftnets, known for indiscriminately catching and killing anything caught within the huge nets

The proposed ban on driftnets would help protect dolphins, sharks, swordfish and bluefin tuna. DEAN PURCELL/GETTY IMAGES

The European Union's executive on Wednesday proposed to ban all use of driftnets in EU waters and on its vessels by year's end to better enforce the protection of dolphins, sharks, swordfish and bluefin tuna.

Driftnets stretching for miles close to the surface have often been responsible for the incidental capture and killing of thousands of marine animals that are important to the ecosystem. They were also responsible for indiscriminate fishing that often resulted in huge by-catches with little commercial value.

Often they were called the "walls of death" since they trapped and killed anything within nets that could measure dozens of kilometres.

"Fishing with driftnets destroys marine habitats, endangers marine wildlife and threatens sustainable fisheries," said EU Fisheries Commissioner Maria Damanaki.

These type of nets were previously used in the hunt for endangered bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean until the EU banned such fishing in 2002. Even if laws already restricted its use, driftnet fishing often continued illegally and a total ban on driftnets would make catching cheats easier. The EU courts had to take action against Italy and France half a decade ago to stop such practices.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro AR
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ALL HAIL VICKY, QUEEN OF BBQS

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Here's a two-four gun salute to Queen Victoria, namesake of the best holiday on the entire calendar.

Sure, the full-bodied Crown Vic doesn't have the same cache as Santa's sleigh, but that's the point.

No gifts to buy, no relatives to visit, no dates to remember. The lazy long weekend May Day is the best precisely because it's no emergency.

Long live holidays that aren't tied to anything of importance, I say. Long live Queen Vicky whispering sweet, sweet nothing in my ear from her ignored corner of history.

I know, I know. There are people out there that feel some sort of bizarre kinship to a long-dead sort-of leader who kind of ruled us when our country was born, forever inspiring the Canadian people with her era's strict table manners and fear of sex.

In the interests of keeping the die-hard Queen fans happy, here are a few interesting true facts about Queen Victoria Daye and the holiday that bears her name.

Did you know?

* Victoria Day is named after Queen Victoria, Ruler of Barbecues, Defender of Gardening and Empress of Putting Your Boat in the Water.

* Her real name: Robert Zimmerman.

* Victoria was the longest-sitting U.K. sovereign, staying in her royal Barcalounger for three straight weeks while she caught up on all seven seasons of William Shakespeare's series The Henrys.

* Winner of several wars against her French counterpart Queen Capitula.

* Founded Victoria's Secret in 1871. The closely guarded secret, held close to the chest until 2005, was that lingerie will not turn you into a buxom 20-year-old model.

* Victoria faced six assassination attempts, most of them by men who missed with pistols at close range, providing George Lucas with the real-world inspiration for the storm troopers in Star Wars.

* Almost always depicted wearing black, because it did a good job hiding the Yorkshire pudding stains.

* Despite being thought of as a historically intimidating figure, Victoria was a surprising three inches tall. Her image on postage stamps of the day is life-sized.

* Victoria Day is celebrated in other countries by looking in the general direction of Canada and shrugging.

So, yes, Queen Victoria has done many great things, and you should talk to your local plate collector or Wikipedia page moderator to learn more about them.

But to me her greatest accomplishment will always be a why-not holiday that happens just as the sun starts to spread its warmth, the leaves make their first appearance and the flowers bloom.

Only in Canada? Pretty.

ZOOM

To wear to the amethyst castle party

The Borgezie Princess Constellation stilettos are priced at $337,000 US. CONTRIBUTED

Q&A

Designer defends diamond-encrusted stilettos

You could walk off with heels worthy of Cinderella … if you've got £200,000 ($337,000 US) to spare. The Borgezie Princess Constellation stilettos — crafted in either platinum or 18-carat gold and encrusted with 1,290 diamonds — are the world's most expensive shoes. Designer Christopher Shellis, who's been working on the stilettos for seven years, tells Metro why the footwear that requires a mortgage is a "bargain."

The shoes are the price of a sports car or an apartment, so who are you expecting to splash the cash? Actually, I've already had an enquiry. I've been approached by some people, who won't disclose their names, asking whether I could create 100 pairs of stilettos like this one. It's for a royal engagement.

That's ridiculous! £200,000 sounds like a lot of money but people are spending hundreds of thousands on diamond-encrusted iPhone accessories or buying £500,000-plus cars. It's a bargain, mate! (Laughs)

Do you see them as an investment piece? Yeah, I think the stilettos are like the Damien Hirst diamond-encrusted skull. Actually they're better because they've got a practical value as well as a display value.

Does a bodyguard come with the purchase? (Laughs) The people who buy these will bring their own bodyguard. METRO

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MetroTube

The beautiful mane: Soccer, now with lions

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

The thing about people that seem to have a mystical connection with lions is that there's nothing really mystical about it so long as you know your way around a cat.

Just watch sharply-dressed Lion Whisperer Kevin Richardson in action. A few chin scratches here, a head-butt there. Add a dash of flank rubs and he's earned enough feline devotion to spawn a spirited soccer match.

There's a lion whisperer inside all of us. Then again, so is a healthy fear of an animal that can kill you by mistake.

SCREENGRAB

(Via Van Gils/YouTube)

metro

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Japan's underground music scene hits the Toronto stage

Next Music from Tokyo.
Concert tour gives Canada a taste of Japan's coolest up-and-comers

BACKSTAGE PASS
Ian Gormely
scene@metronews.ca

Steven Tanaka had dismissed Japanese music as nothing more than generic rock and manufactured pop.

"I thought it was a poor man's versions of North American music," he says. Then, in the late-2000s he actually attended a show in Tokyo. "My mind was blown."

What Tanaka had stumbled onto was a glimpse of Tokyo's potent underground music scene, where creativity and uniqueness are valued above all else. "They're two steps ahead of what people are doing in North America."

Inspired, Tanaka, an anesthesiologist here in Toronto, returned home and founded the annual Next Music from Tokyo concert series. Using his own money, Tanaka flies Japanese bands to Canada for a week-long tour featuring gigs in Vancouver, Montreal and two in Toronto.

jizue CONTRIBUTED

Quoted

"They're two steps ahead of what people are doing in North America."

Steven Tanaka, organizer, Next Music from Tokyo concert series
on the underground music scene in Japan

"I want to introduce Canadians to what Tokyo's music scene was like."

Like the British Invasion bands did with the blues in the 1960s, these groups look to the U.S. and the U.K. for inspiration, "but they do their best to make it their own," says Tanaka. "Japan's well known for copying things and putting their own twists on it."

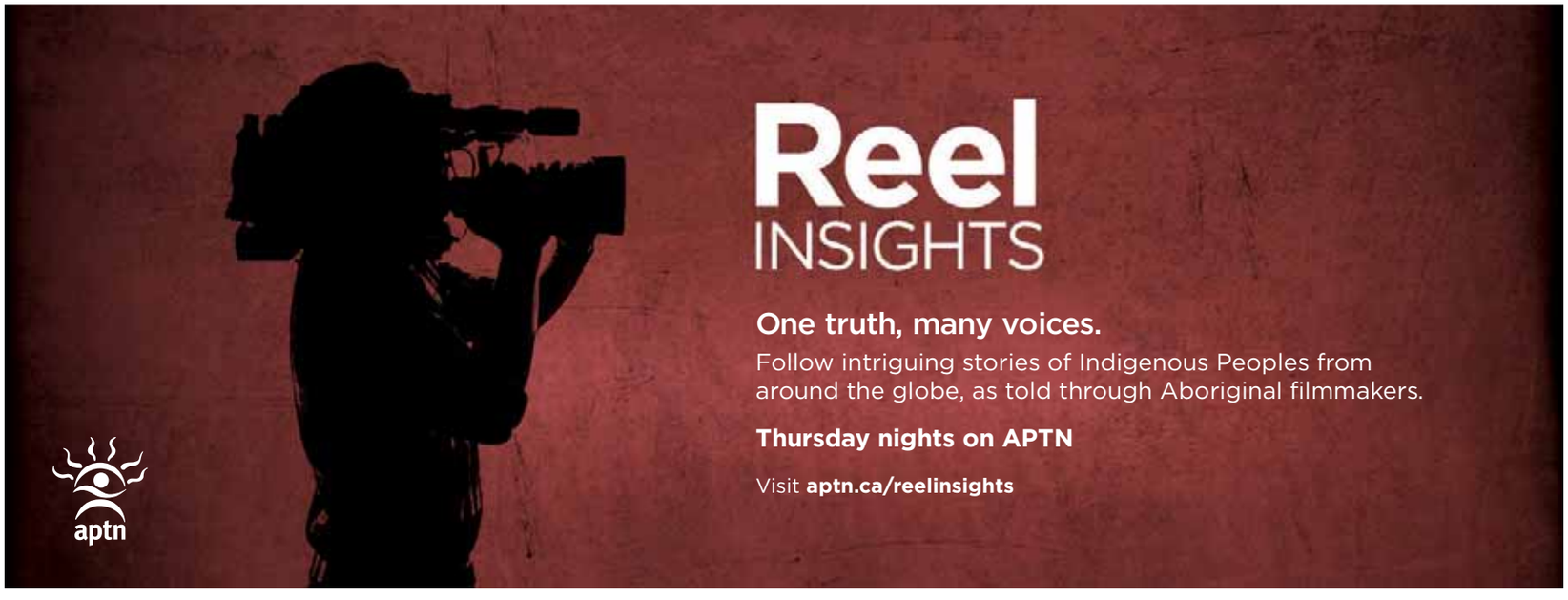
It's a competitive country, he says. With so many bands vying for attention, groups have to go out of their way to distinguish themselves, creating ever-more adventurous and intricate compositions that still manage to maintain a pop sensibility. "It's not difficult for the sake of being difficult," Tanaka says.

A handful of Japanese bands have found favour in Western indie-rock circles — the international cult-popularity of acts like Boredoms and Melt Banana eclipses their fan base at home. Yet metropolitan Tokyo boasts a population of over 35 million people and, says Tanaka, music plays a much larger part in people's lives there than it does here in Canada. "The sheer numbers mean that you'll have a lot of great bands by venues alone."

You can check out Next Music from Tokyo Vol. 6 on Friday at the Rivoli, 334 Queen St. West and Saturday at Lee's Palace, 529, Bloor St. West. Tickets are $10. For more info check out nextmusicfromtokyo.com.

The bands

- **Happy! Mari.** While featuring strong currents of orchestral pop, the four members of this band count San Francisco noiseniks Deerhoof as one of their favourites.
- **Uchu Conbini.** Technically ambitious playing with beautiful melodies courtesy of singer-bass player Emi Ohki.
- **jizue.** Kyoto instrumental four-piece who love spastic jazz and the post-rock stylings of Explosions in the Sky with equal measure.
- **Nayuta.** Improvisational trio from Osaka whose music is rooted in psych and prog rock. No two performances are the same.
- **Kinoko Teikoku.** Nominally a shoegaze band, this quartet introduce elements of '90s emo and post rock into their sound.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Where are the women? Cannes lacks female-directed entries yet again

Palme d'Or jury president Jane Campion. CONTRIBUTED

Gender politics flared at the opening of the 67th Cannes Film Festival Wednesday as Palme d'Or jury president Jane Campion railed against male domination of the movies.

"It does feel very undemocratic, and women do notice, you know," the New Zealand filmmaker said, noting that just two of the 18 films she and her fellow jury members will judge in the days ahead were directed by women.

"Time and time again we don't get our share of representation ... the guys get to eat all the cake."

Campion, the only woman in the festival's history to win the Palme — she took it for The Piano in 1993 — said she was told by Cannes selectors that 93 per cent of the films submitted to the fest were made by men, so there was bound to be an imbalance. She said she understands this and doesn't resent the success of male filmmakers, "but there is something that women are thinking and doing that we don't get to know enough about."

Despite her strong feelings on this issue, Campion pledged that she and her fellow jurors will "vote with our hearts and our consciences" and not follow any political or cultural agenda. Campion's nine-member jury tilts more female than male, with five women and four men. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Death. Searching for Sugar Man director commits suicide after battle with depression

Malik Bendjelloul
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Malik Bendjelloul, director of the acclaimed Searching for Sugar Man documentary, was widely known for his enthusiasm, kindness and high spirits — so the news Wednesday that he had taken his own life shocked colleagues around the world.

Bendjelloul's brother Johar Bendjelloul told Swedish daily Aftonbladet that his 36-year-old brother committed suicide Tuesday after struggling with depression for a short period. "Life is not always simple," Johar Bendjelloul said, adding that receiving the message that his brother had committed suicide was the worst thing he had ever experienced.

"I don't know how to handle it. I don't know," he said.

Bendjelloul rose to international fame in 2013 when his debut feature film, Searching for Sugar Man, won an Oscar for best documentary.

British film producer Simon Chinn, who produced Searching for Sugar Man together with Bendjelloul, said he was shocked and deeply saddened by the news of his friend's passing. "It seems so unbelievable," Chinn told The Associated Press over the telephone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brief

Monaco royals take issue with Kidman film

It has been savaged as "shameful" before it even comes out, but filmmakers behind Grace of Monaco were hoping to put all that behind them Wednesday when the movie kicked off the Cannes Film Festival.

Director Olivier Dahan's Grace of Monaco, starring Nicole Kidman, has been embroiled in not one but two rows as the princely children of the late actress-turned-princess and powerful U.S. distributor Harvey Weinstein blast the director's version of the film.

Prince Albert II and his sisters Caroline and Stephanie insist that the film does not accurately portray events involving their mother. AFP

Brief

J.K. Rowling's next trilogy to hit theatres in 2016

The first film in the trilogy inspired by J.K. Rowling's book Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them will arrive in North American theatres on Nov. 18, 2016.

Following the announcement of the project in March, producers have now given J.K. Rowling fans a date to look forward to.

The highly anticipated spin-off on the Harry Potter movies will follow the adventures of the "magizoologist" Newt Scamander, who devotes his life to the study of magical creatures. Though set in an extension of the Harry Potter universe, the new trilogy is expected to take place in New York around 70 years before the young wizard's birth. AFP

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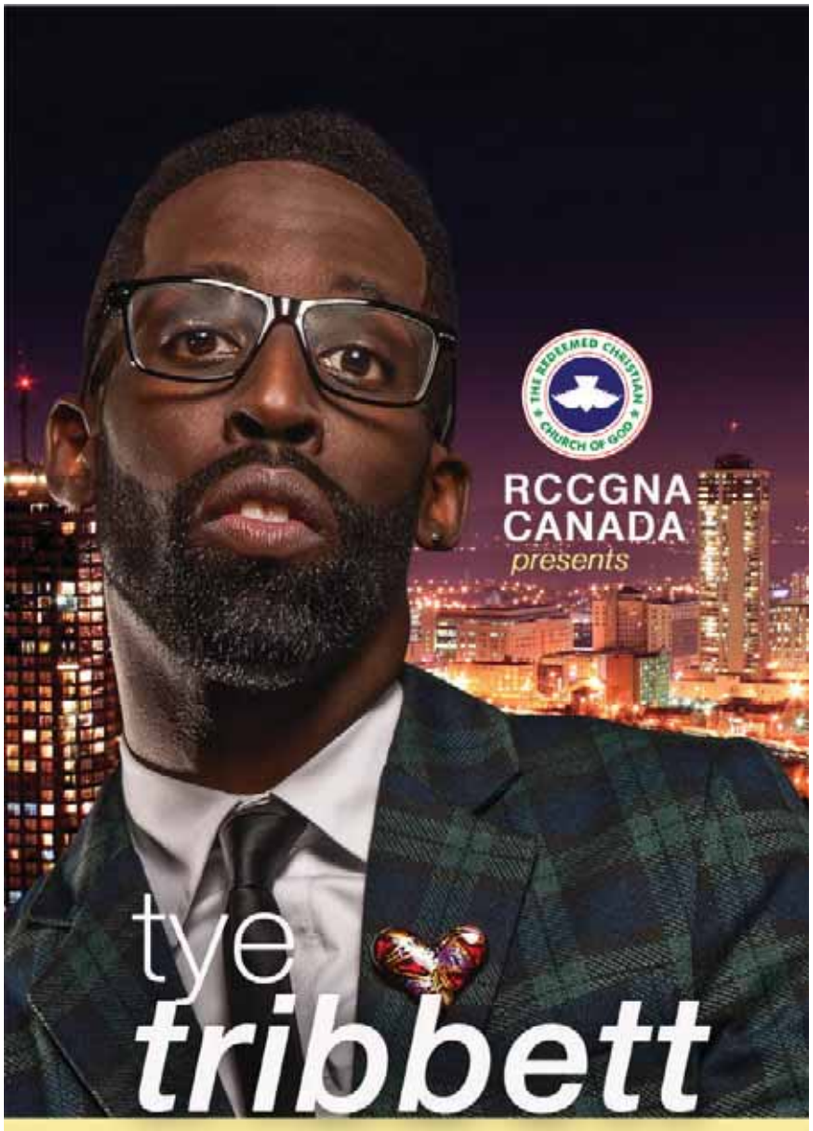

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app. Check out a clip of Kevin Spacey as Richard III

Now: In the Wings on a World Stage is in theatres on Thursday and online at nowthefilm.com. CONTRIBUTED

Spacey shakes things up

Kevin Spacey. Thespian becomes first actor to self-distribute a film in the U.S. with his new documentary

LIZ BROWN
liz.brown@metronews.ca

Kevin Spacey doesn't shy away from taking big risks.

It started when he was a teenager and switched high schools — to California's Chatsworth — so he could work with two other actors he thought brilliant: Val Kilmer and Mare Winningham.

"Everybody thought I was nuts to do that. I've been f--ing nuts my whole life," he says in a recent phone interview.

He continued this peripatetic path into adulthood, moving from California to New York to study drama, then all but leaving Hollywood behind 11 years ago to run The Old Vic theatre in London. "I love being disruptive. I've been making decisions like that my whole life, so it was very exciting to me," he says of the bold move.

His latest shakeup is Now: In the Wings on a World Stage, a documentary he funded, produced and starred in. With its release, Spacey becomes the first actor to self-distribute a film in the U.S. It's a savvy business move that allows Spacey more control over the project.

The doc follows the Bridge Project, a theatre group, as they tour the globe on a grueling 200-plus show production of Shakespeare's Richard III. Sam Mendes is at the helm as director of the play, with Spacey playing the fated villain-hero — the very character on which his House of Cards President Frank Underwood is based.

"It was coincidental," he says of the occurrence of playing Richard III and then Frank Underwood. "House of Cards was being developed before I even knew I was doing Richard III."

Can Spacey pick a favourite moment from the tour?

"It's hard to pick out a favourite," he says. "But I suspect if I absolutely had to point at one, it would end up being the 14,000-seat amphitheatre in Greece — the Epidaurus — where we played three performances, and it was some of the most incredible experiences I have ever had in front of an audience. You're playing to the gods without any amplifications."

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Cheapskates are out, frugality is in

Being frugal can free you up to live really well. ISTOCK

Be savvy, not stingy. Metro's Lesley-Anne Scorgie has you covered in her new book, Well-Heeled: The Smart Girl's Guide to Getting Rich

LESLEY SCORGIE
Lesley Scorgie
money@metronews.ca

I'm not a cheapskate, but I sure do enjoy saving money on my purchases where and when I can.

Saving money actually drives much of my purchasing behaviour because the more money I can keep, the greater my net worth and the more options I have to do what I want with my life.

Frugal living is different from being a cheapskate. Frugal people maximize the dollars they've worked hard to earn by negotiating prices, finding deals, couponing, buying on sale, and determining the best ways to buy products and services for the lowest possible price. Sure, sometimes my friends think I'm cheap because I drive a second-hand, affordable, fuel-efficient Volkswagen; I love free events; I buy in bulk; and Kijiji is my best friend. But I disagree. I never go without. I'm simply a smart spender, and my bank account proves it.

Cheapskates, on the other hand, have a bad rap for not buying what they need, when they need it, because they are afraid to spend their money. When they do spend, they'll often buy a cheap product that doesn't last, which then creates unnecessary waste and costs more in the long term because it breaks and needs to be replaced.

The unfortunate reality is that despite their belief that they're saving money, cheapskates often end up broke because they buy low-quality things and do not know how to spot good value.

Frugal young ladies do not spend frivolously. They take time to research their purchases and know what is and is not a good deal.

Regardless of whether you're an overspender or a cheapskate, with just a little effort, you can live frugally and save money without compromising your lifestyle.

Chapter 1 reveals that research shows wealthy women live within their means and frugally.

Dr. Thomas Stanley has conducted extensive studies on thousands of wealthy men and women.

In his book Stop Acting Rich ... And Start Living Like a Real Millionaire, he discusses how most millionaires keep meticulous budgets, live in homes valued at less than $300,000, and purchase rather than lease their cars (and those cars are often second-hand).

And surprisingly, typical millionaire women never pay more than $140 for a pair of shoes — and you know as well as I do that Jimmy Choos don't fall into that price bracket!

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Contest

Want to read more? Enter at clubmetro.com for a chance to win one of 10 copies of Lesley Anne Scorgie's new book Well-Heeled: The Smart Girl's Guide to Getting Rich

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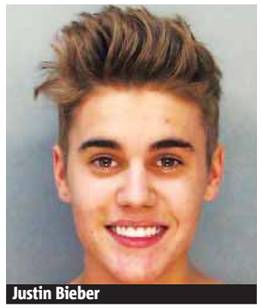
Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie

Angelina and Brad let kids plan wedding

Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt might be regretting their choice of wedding planners. The Maleficent star tells People magazine that they've been allowing their six kids to have some input on how best to tie the knot. "We are discussing it with the children and how they imagine it might be, which is verging on hysterical, how kids envision a wedding," Jolie says. "They will, in a way, be the wedding planners. It's going to be Disney or paintball — one or the other."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Beauty and a rap sheet: Biebs accused of briefly swiping woman's phone


Justin Bieber

Justin Bieber is developing quite the weird little rap sheet. The pop star has been accused of graffiti, vandalism, getting his bodyguards to beat up a guy, and now, very short theft.

Bieber was at Sherman Oaks Castle Park, a sports complex, when he and his entourage reportedly got into an altercation with a group of men by the batting cages. According to TMZ, a woman claims that during the altercation, Bieber saw her take out her cellphone and came over to confront her about whether she'd taken pictures. The woman says that when she refused to show him her phone, Bieber reached into her purse and took it.

The two wrestled for the phone and Justin tore it out of her hand, but couldn't see her photo stream because the phone was locked, she told police. Bieber gave the phone back and insisted that she erase the photos. After she unlocked the phone and showed him she'd never taken any in the first place, Bieber finally left her alone, she said.

The unnamed woman filed a criminal complaint. The LAPD confirmed to CNN that Justin has been accused of attempted robbery. However, no charges have been filed.

Poor old Bieber can't win. When he tries to cover up one potential scandal he ends up embroiled in another. Seems like the best solution for all of us if he just isolates himself in Biebervania.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Research Study VOLUNTEERS Needed

LMC is seeking **healthy volunteers** to participate in a research study to test an investigational medication.

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Jay Z shops with 100th problem Solange

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

In perhaps an unspoken message to let us know that we will never, ever, ever know what is up with the Knowles-Z clan, Jay Z and Solange Knowles calmly shopped for jewelry together in Manhattan on Tuesday, just days after Solange attacked Jay Z in an elevator after the Met Gala.

The rap mogul and his 100th problem were spotted at Mr. Flawless, a high end jewelry store, according to TMZ. The pair browsed women's jewelry for about 20 minutes, mostly separately. They spoke little to each other and left without buying anything.

It would take remarkable self-possession to calmly go on a shopping trip with someone who tried to put a stiletto heel through your eye just days earlier. Maybe Jay Z just wants his peaceful home life back, so he's trying to forge a truce. Or maybe they're both trying to get back in Beyoncé's good graces with a sparkly peace offering. Or maybe it's Blue Ivy who's pulling all the strings here, and they have to bring her diamond-encrusted baby rattles or else.

Jay Z isn't the only one who's trying to publicly reinforce his relationship with Solange: Beyoncé has filled her Instagram with pictures of the sisters hanging out in happier times.

Nicole Kidman ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

The highs and lows of being Nicole Kidman

Nicole Kidman has never made the choice that Grace Kelly did — quitting acting to begin another life as Princess of Monaco. But she's rarely found equilibrium in her career and personal life. "When I won the Oscar, I went home and I didn't have (love) in my life," said Kidman, who won best actress in 2003, two years after she and Tom Cruise divorced. "That was the most intensely lonely experience in my life."

Kidman stars as Kelly in Grace of Monaco, which premiered Wednesday as the opener of the Cannes Film Festival. "Strangely for me, the greatest highs have coincided with the greatest lows," said Kidman. "So (during) my professional highs a lot of times I've had personal lows and they've collided. That's always aggravated me that it's gone that way. I'm hoping one day I can have a professional high and a personal high."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Putting your best foot forward

Toe-tal recall. You've spent a long winter keeping your lower limbs under the lock and key of wool and leather. How better to bust out of the blahs than by letting your tootsies take on the sun-soaked world?

SIGRID FORBERG
Metro World News

This little piggy definitely went to the spa. ISTOCK

As the weather starts to warm up, it's natural to experience a little more spring in your step.

You might be excited to shed those socks and boots, but before you start strutting around town in strappy sandals and peep-toes, you'll want to be sure to start the season off on the right foot, says essie Canada's lead nail artist, Rita Remark.

"Because they are out in the open, our feet tend to have more issues like dryness, cracking and chipping when the weather is warm," says Remark.

With that in mind, she says treating the skin on your feet the same way you would the rest of your body is important: exfoliate where necessary and moisturize.

"Use the coarse side of a double sided pedicure file to remove any calluses or rough skin, then use the finer side to soften them," she says. "After this step, it's good practice to moisturize because it allows for better product absorption and a longer lasting softness."

She adds that you'll want to apply sunscreen before stepping out into the sun — unless you want sandal tan lines, of course.

And naturally, a layer of polish will kick up any spring outfit an extra notch.

Revlon Canada's nail expert, Leeanne Colley recommends gravitating towards bright colours this season, as they work with every skin tone and are a great way of working the colour-blocking trend into your look from all angles.

When it comes to the question of whether bright toenails is a polished enough look for work, Colley says it all comes down to maintenance.

"As long as they are chip-free, short and remain glossy," says Colley of your professional pedicure. "If not? Skip the open toe until you (clean them up)."

Of course caring for your feet shouldn't just be a female concern.

Most men might think of spa treatments as a luxury, but oftentimes they ignore real health concerns when it comes to their feet.

Daniel Francoeur, the owner of Bodé Spa Medi-Wellness for Men, with locations in both Ottawa and Toronto, says that men often suffer in silence with foot problems like warts, corns and fungus or ingrown nails.

One of his clients, a senior, had been having trouble walking because his toenails were turning down. With a little attention, his problem has been solved, he's more mobile, and he's lost 25 pounds.

"When you say pedicure to a man, they think of a big, drippy red nail," says Francoeur.

"Men often don't consider their feet important, but once they realize what can be done with them, it's almost always the first service we'll see them rebooking."

Fear by the foot

"When you say pedicure to a man, they think of a big, drippy, red nail."

Daniel Francoeur
Owner of Bodé Spa Medi-Wellness for Men on changing the male mind about foot care

Colours of the season

Rita Remark's recommendations for this season are essie's cobalt aqua (strut your stuff), soft lavender (French affair) and bright sunny orange (roarrrange).

Essie polishes available for $9.99 at leading salons and retailers across Canada.

The hair way down there

Did you know that toe hair is a common area of concern for visitors to laser hair removal clinics?

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Tria Hair Removal Laser Precision is sold online at TriaBeauty.ca for $299, and will be available at Sephora in the summer.

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Cookbook of the Week

Do it like the pros

Grilling can be light and healthy, but still delicious. Fresh Grilling by Better Homes and Gardens shows you how to do it right. The book offers 200 recipes in which vegetables and fruits shine — as crunchy toppings for burgers, bright sauces and marinades for meat, chicken and fish; heaping platters of grilled veg; grilled salads and pizzas; and more. Find your grilling inspiration through recipes such as Primo Pesto Pizza, Turkey Burgers with Peaches and Blueberries, Grilled Berry Crumble and more. **METRO**

Sweet potatoes star in healthy veg quesadillas

Grilling Week.
Vegetarians, fire up the barbecue. This recipe in our series leading up to May Long Weekend is just for you.

"The flavour and nutritional content of sweet potatoes spurs cooks to find surprising ways to work them into all kinds of dishes," write the editors of Better Homes and Gardens in the book Fresh Grilling. "Here, they help fill super-healthy quesadillas packed with jack cheese, navy beans, and baby spinach."

Ingredients

- 1 15- to 16-oz can navy beans, rinsed and drained
- 5 tbsp snipped fresh cilantro
- 1 tbsp lime juice
- 1 small fresh jalapeño chili pepper, seeded, finely chopped
- 1 tsp ground ancho chili powder
- 1/2 cucumber, quartered and sliced
- 3 to 4 medium radishes, halved and thinly sliced
- 12 oz sweet potato, peeled and coarsely chopped
- 1/2 tsp ground cumin
- 4 10-inch whole wheat flour tortillas
- 1 1/2 cups coarsely chopped baby spinach
- 2 green onions, thinly sliced
- 3/4 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese (3 oz)
- Pain Grec yogurt and paprika (optional)

1. In a bowl combine beans, 1/4 cup of the cilantro, lime juice, jalapeño, and chili powder; set aside. For cucumber relish, in a small bowl combine cucumber, radishes and remaining 1 tablespoon cilantro; set aside.

2. In a medium saucepan cook sweet potatoes, covered, in lightly salted boiling water for 15 minutes or until tender; drain well. Return potatoes to saucepan and coarsely mash; stir in cumin.

3. Spread mashed sweet potatoes over half of each tortilla. Top each with beans, spinach, green onions, and cheese. Fold each tortilla in half over the filling, pressing firmly.

4. For a charcoal or gas grill, place quesadillas directly on the grill rack over medium heat. Cover and grill for 4 minutes, turning once halfway through grilling. To serve, cut quesadillas into wedges and pass cucumber relish and, if desired, Greek yogurt sprinkled with paprika.

RECIPE EXCERPTED FROM FRESH GRILLING © 2014 BY BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS. REPRODUCED BY PERMISSION OF HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

This recipe for Sweet Potato Quesadillas with Cucumber Relish serves four.
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Legal Matters

Mould is not gold

I have an acquaintance who lives a few streets over from me and she wants to sell the house she is living in which belonged to her deceased mother. We have talked about price and she has disclosed to me that there is some mould in the basement. She is willing to give me a good deal if we don't use a real estate agent and I accept the house on an "as is" basis. The price at which she is offering the house is more than $100,000 lower than similar houses on her street but she says she is motivated to sell because the family home brings back sad memories for her. I don't want to miss this opportunity but I am not sure how to move forward. What do you suggest?

LEGAL MATTERS
Jeffrey Cowan
home@metronews.ca

Working directly with the vendor may save you a good deal of money in forgone realtor commission but in the end could lead to much more expensive problems. Your agent is there to safeguard against purchasing a property that has definite problems; in this case mould.

As I have written in the past, mould is an extremely difficult problem to deal with and can be hidden behind walls and even under floors. Without a thorough qualified mould inspection you are dealing with a problem that is entirely undefined. You have no idea how far the mould has spread and what it will cost to re-mediate. The $100,000 you are apparently saving on the cost of the purchase could very easily be eaten up fixing the property.

If you are determined not to work with a realtor on this purchase, you should engage a professional to guide you through the offer document because there are a host of pitfalls that are addressed by a qualified agent when they draft up an offer to purchase a property; not in the least would be a mould inspection.

Follow Jeff Cowan on Twitter @Cowan_Law or on the website cowanlaw.ca, or email him at jeff@cowanlaw.ca.

Breathing new life into historic Market Street

Woodcliffe Landmark Properties. European-style promenade offers seven new restaurants to vibrant neighbourhood

CONDO TRENDS
Duncan McAllister
life@metronews.ca

St. Lawrence Market in Old Muddy York is one of the oldest neighbourhoods in Toronto. It is a highly desirable downtown community to live in, and is closely guarded against rampant development, for good reason. The St. Lawrence neighbourhood maintains a rigid set of urban design guidelines for builders to respect the sensitive historic nature of the area. Projects like The Berczy and 88 Scott by Concert Properties have been thoughtfully designed to blend in next to landmarks such as the Flatiron Building.

The Market Street redevelopment project across from the market will provide local condo dwellers with a European-style culinary promenade. Over the past three years, developer Eve Lewis has brought to fruition the long-held dream of her late husband Paul Oberman — namely, to transform Market Street into an animated, pedestrian-friendly destination in the heart of the Market.

Eve Lewis leads the firm overseeing the transformation of Market Street. CONTRIBUTED

Lewis is the dynamic leader at the helm of three of Toronto's top real estate organizations: MarketVision, Urbanation and Woodcliffe Landmark Properties, the firm overseeing the transformation of Market Street.

The project comprises the renovation and retrofitting of three heritage buildings that have lain dormant for 20 years. The entire block includes the expansion of the LCBO on Front Street and seven bright new restaurants with patios lining the street.

In an area that has been long averse to high-rise condo development, it all started with Market Square, says Lewis. "The first project I ever worked on out of graduate school in 1981 was Market Square," says Lewis. "It's nearly a whole city block. It was really, at that time, one of the first and it's totally unique." In fact, Market Square architect Jerome Markson received a lifetime design achievement award from the Ontario Association of Architects just last week.

A view of the newly restored Market Street block, which includes three heritage buildings and seven bright new restaurants with patios lining the curbless culinary promenade. COURTESY DUNCAN MCALLISTER

Lewis says the area has since evolved and become a bustling urban 'hood. "Then there was the Wellington, and once the towers became an accepted format, now there's 5,000 new condominiums that have been built in the last five years within a four-block radius."

New developments like the Spire, the L-Tower and Market Wharf have reshaped the landscape. "So what you have is a huge community. I lived at Market Square. That was a long time ago. There was nobody on the streets. Now it's totally vibrant. There are great restaurants and grocery stores and of course, right across from St. Lawrence Market."

The official Market Street opening ceremony is slated for June 4.

What's hot on the condo market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1. Open House

Condo suites in the brand new Portrait condominiums at the Sheppard and Bathurst area. Head up to 701 Sheppard Ave. W., on May 15 from 12 to 6 p.m.

CONTACT: 416-461-9900

2. Sales Event

Dundas Square Gardens 'main event' by Easton's Group. New condo building at Dundas and Jarvis. Financial incentives on selected units.

CONTACT: 416-645-8575, DUNDASSQUAREGARDENS.COM

3. Open House

One bedroom, 547 sq. ft. condo unit in the heart of downtown. Head over to 51 Lower Simcoe St., on May 17 and 18 from 2 to 5 p.m.

CONTACT: 905-471-1181

4. Sales Event

Riva Del Lago condos by Monarch on the Humber Bay Shores. Visit the sales centre at 2167 Lake Shore Blvd. W., in Etobicoke.

CONTACT: 416-495-3544, MONARCHGROUP.NET

Vibrant streets

Condos build community

BRYAN TUCKEY
President and CEO of the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) can be found at twitter.com/bildgta, facebook.com/bildgta, and bildblogs.ca.

One of the best ways to explore a city is to just walk around it.

As a proud resident of downtown Toronto, I enjoy walking the laneways and avenues of this city discovering quaint shops, cafés and restaurants that most commuters wouldn't notice from their car windows.

These places are often frequented by local residents, many of whom live in the various highrise condominium developments across the city.

As a matter of fact, 43 per cent of all new homes sold in the GTA last year were in the City of Toronto, and 96 per cent of those were in the highrise sector. These homes are the direct result of the provincial growth plan's intensification objectives, which created a housing shift toward high-density developments in the GTA.

The addition of thousands of new residents has been a welcome boost to small neighbourhood businesses, too. More help is on the way with the approximately 250 highrise projects that are currently under construction throughout the GTA — the most of any North American city.

This is a great way to ensure that we build homes for up to 100,000 people and 50,000 jobs that come to the GTA every year.

Today's condominiums come pre-packaged with premium amenities, spectacular views of the city and a vibrant condo culture. They are also an affordable option for first-time buyers looking to take their first step toward home ownership.

Next time you are in the City of Toronto, take a stroll through its vibrant streets. You'll see exactly what I mean.

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A glass act at YC

Inside the YC Condos residences at Yonge and College. CONTRIBUTED

Meet the condo

- **What.** YC Condos
- **Builder.** Canderel Residential Inc.
- **Location.** Yonge Street and Grenville Street
- **Website.** yccondos.com
- **Pricing.** From $516,900 to over $1.5M

The project overview

YC stands for Yonge and College condominium residences. A 66-storey glass sculpture accented by extended balconies and one-of-a-kind amenities not found anywhere in North America. A front lobby with 16-foot-high ceilings is finished in bronze and honed stone.

Location and transit

Yonge at College Condominiums is located in the heart of the city, right on the Yonge subway and College streetcar routes. A highly-walkable and bike-friendly neighbourhood. Motorists will have nearby access to the Don Valley Parkway and the Gardiner Expressway.

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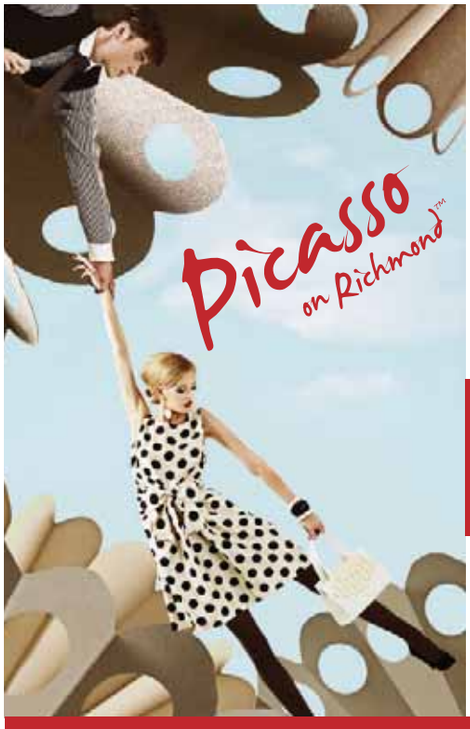

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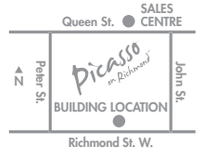

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Textured solids, checks, stripes and floral patterns can work together using a similar colour palette. THOMASVILLE

Mix and match patterns like a design pro

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Mix it up in style. Follow these rules from a designer to create the perfect combination of patterns in a room

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Every well-decorated room should have some sort of pattern, whether it's featured on fabrics, rugs, wallpaper or accessories. Even wood floors and furnishings have patterns to consider when designing a space.

Patterns help to bring a room to life with movement, shape and colour. An untrained eye may never recognize the thought process that goes into creating a well-balanced room, but not incorporating pattern into your decor scheme can lead to a plain, boring room.

Here are the ABC's of incorporating pattern into your own space:

Mixing patterns

• Every room needs a straight-lined pattern (such as stripes, plaids or graphics) and a curvy-line fabric (such as floral, paisley or polka dots).

• Using two or more of a similar pattern (such as floral) rarely works unless the size of those patterns is distinctly different.

• Solid (non-patterned) fabrics can help relieve the eye of too much visual movement but can sometimes look plain if they are not textured.

Pattern shapes

• Curvy or rounded patterns tend to imply a traditional or feminine look whereas straight-lined patterns imply a masculine or modern look.

• When mixing straight and curvy patterns, incorporate 70 per cent of your favourite look and 30 per cent of the other for a perfect balance; never 50/50.

• Wood has grain and that should be considered a pattern when decorating. Oak and walnut have curvy lines and zebra wood has straight lines.

Scale

• Put the biggest pattern on the biggest piece — that's the proper way to choose the size of a pattern.

• For impact, add an oversized print on a tiny item like a pillow.

• When choosing wallpaper, the bigger the print, the fuller the room will look. This is a great way to visually fill a space where a lot of furniture is not needed, such as stairwells, foyers and powder rooms.

Colour

• Various patterns can work together as long as they all share the same colourway.

• The third most obvious colour in the room's main print is the colour to paint the walls of that room.

• If decorating a room with one colour, you are creating a monochromatic colour scheme. Add textured fabrics and rugs to fill the eye's need for pattern.

Online

Want more design advice, or some inspiration on making your home more stylish? Visit metronews.ca for more Karl Lohnes.

You could cask for more

Stripes of bright paint turn a wood barrel into a colourful casual table. ALL PHOTOS ISTOCK

DIY. Give an old barrel new life as a bar, a coffee table or a pet bed

Like a good wine, wood barrels get better with age. While the wood ages they collect stains from wine, whisky, or other spirits, and take on more character. Wood barrels are rustic, immediately recognizable, and have become highly sought out among DIY-ers for resourceful projects like these.

Coffee table

Create a remarkable piece of furniture and an even better conversation piece with a wood barrel coffee table. First, lay the barrel on its side and cut it in half horizontally. To create a broad base for the table top to rest, screw boards around the frame of the cut. Measure the outside of this frame and use the measurements to create a lid with the same dimensions. Once complete, install the top with chest hinges to make the perfect hiding spots for blankets, firewood, or kid and pet toys. To keep the barrel stable, it will also be necessary to create a cradle that matches the curve of the barrel.

Bar table with hidden storage

Keep the good times rolling by repurposing a barrel into a sophisticated bar table for hosting wine and cheese parties. Stand the barrel upright and cut a rectangular door from the top of the barrel to the bottom. Before attaching the hinges, install a stained wood shelf in the middle to hold wine bottles and glasses. Once the hinges and a door handle are installed, complete the look with a glass or wood countertop to serve cheese pairings.

Pet bed

The bottom quarter of barrels can serve as comfortable pet beds and are strong enough to hold up to even the toughest pets. After cutting the barrel all the way around, cut a dip on one side to make it easier for the pet to enter and exit. Make sure to sand down the barrel to eliminate any sharp edges. Paint or stain to match your pet's personality or the room's decor and add a round pillow or a blanket to the bottom.

Rehab Addict

For more ideas on giving something old a second chance, join Nicole Curtis on Rehab Addict, Tuesdays at 9 p.m. ET/PT on DIY Network Canada.

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Perfecting the canner's garden

Put 'em up. Follow these guidelines for an ideal crop yield of produce to preserve

Put one's orchard in: Pears can be dried, which concentrates their flavours and sweetness. Add more variety to the family table by including fruit in your canning, freezing or dehydrating mix. DEAN FOSDICK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A canner's garden is not your typical vegetable patch. With its full-scale production, distinctive varieties and four-season harvests, it's more for the future than the moment.

"Canner's gardens aren't really so different in what they grow. Where they're really different is in how much they grow," said Daniel Gasteiger, author of Yes You Can! And Freeze and Dry It, Too (Cool Springs Press, 2011).

"Do some serious planning," said Gasteiger, of Lewisburg, Pa. "How often do I serve corn? How often do I serve broccoli? Then consider how often you'll use it in the form you'll use to preserve it. I use broccoli much more often fresh than I do frozen."

"The smaller your space, the more important it is to use succession gardening," Gasteiger said. That means planting a second crop in the same space after the first one is harvested. Shop for short-season varieties if planting successive crops.

Also, choose cultivars carefully. Some are better than others for canning, freezing or dehydrating.

"If you're going to plant to preserve, you'll probably want the highest density (yielding) producers you can get," Gasteiger said. "Canning tomatoes are typically much firmer and less flavourful than slicing tomatoes, but better (for canning) because they hold together when cooked."

How long do canned foods last?

"If the food was canned safely, it should remain safe indefinitely. No pathogens should grow on them," said Jeanne Brandt, a professor and Master Food Preserver co-ordinator with Oregon State University. That program trains and certifies volunteers who help county extension staff provide food safety and preservation information.

"Try not to preserve more than you can consume in a year or two, though, because the quality deteriorates," Brandt said. "It breaks down in the jar. It toughens. The colour also changes dramatically."

Kimberly Culbertson of Hillsboro, Oregon, is a Master Gardener who later earned a Master Food Preserver certificate.

"I got into preserving in part because it's a step up from gardening," she said. "I used to be in a rush to give away any surplus fresh vegetables before they'd spoil. Now, as canned, I can share them throughout the year."

She also recommends freezing, pickling and dehydrating as a way of preserving different food groups and offering up different flavours.

"I individually quick-freeze fresh fruit, then package it for the deep freeze so I can portion it out for cooking and snacking," she said. "Dried fruits concentrate flavours and sweetness and add another dimension to cooking.

"I pickle peppers and they can easily," Culbertson said. "Tomatoes bring back summer every time I open a jar."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Garden growth chart

The biggest challenge facing food preservationists tends to be determining how much to grow.

The Louisiana State University AgCenter has created a vegetable production chart for expected crop yields per 100-foot rows of:

- **Lima beans (Bush):** 1 bushel shelled or 32 pounds
- **Beets:** 100 pounds
- **Cabbage:** 85 heads
- **Corn:** 120 ears
- **Pepper (Bell):** 125 pounds
- **Squash (Winter):** 150 pounds
- **Cucumbers:** 170 pounds
- **Strawberries:** 170 pounds
- **Tomatoes (Slicers):** 250 pounds

If you only have a 50-foot row of a crop, cut the posted yield in half, LSU says.

If you have a 10-foot row, then use one-tenth of the posted yield.

CFL

Toronto brothers reunited in Argos' secondary

When Matt Black was a 16-year-old playing in the Ontario Varsity Football League, younger brother Eric was the team's water boy.

That's as close as the Blacks have come to playing together, until now.

The Toronto Argonauts selected Eric with the 38th overall pick in Tuesday night's CFL draft, six years after they drafted Matt — the latest and most exciting chapter in the siblings' story.

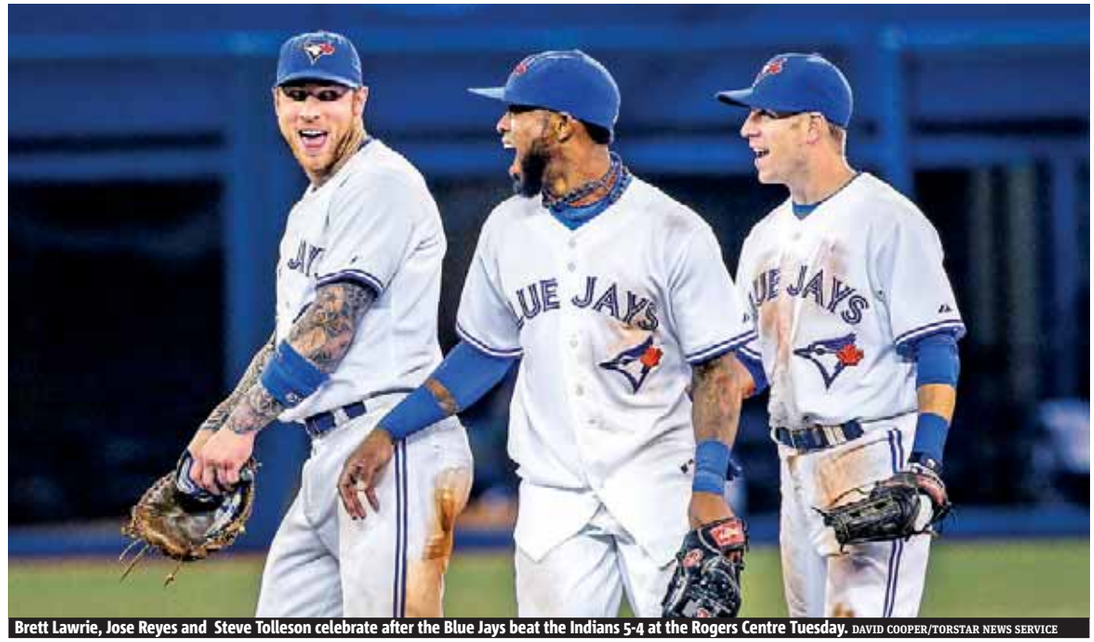
Eric Black TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"It was crazy. It's hard to talk about it," Eric said Wednesday. "It's something I've been working for and dreaming about since I watched my brother do it. And to get drafted to any team, let alone my hometown, with my brother, it's just a team come true."

Eric, 23, and 29-year-old Matt — both defensive backs — met with the media at the Argonauts' downtown office on Wednesday, their first duty together as teammates. Matt helped Eric thread a television mic down his shirt, joking "He can't even dress himself."

The brothers were following the draft together at their parents' home when Eric was selected. Their mom Marlane cried. Dad Donovan said: "It's time to get to work."

"I leapt up ... 'I'm staying home, I'm staying home,'" Eric said. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Brett Lawrie, Jose Reyes and Steve Tolleson celebrate after the Blue Jays beat the Indians 5-4 at the Rogers Centre Tuesday. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Average may just be the new exceptional

MLB. Blue Jays were in a 3-way tie for 2nd place in normally tough AL East heading into Wednesday

The Toronto Blue Jays have had mediocre results over the first quarter of the season along with the rest of the teams in the American League East.

Instead of looking up at the contenders, the Blue Jays are right in the mix. They appear to have as good a shot as any club at contending in what is normally one of the toughest divisions in Major League Baseball.

"We're not necessarily where we want to be, but we're within striking distance with the venom to be able to make a run at it," said Blue Jays starter R.A. Dickey.

The Blue Jays had a pedestrian 20-20 record after 40 games, but that was still good for a share of second place in a division that is weaker than usual. Baltimore, which entered Wednesday's games in top spot at 20-17, is followed by three teams — Toronto, New York (19-19) and Boston (19-19) — who all have .500 records.

Get the score

The Blue Jays were looking to beat the Indians for the second straight night on Wednesday. Go to metronews.ca to find out if they pulled it off.

The Orioles have a lead of just 1 1/2 games, with only 4 1/2 games separating first place from the last-place Tampa Bay Rays (17-23).

Toronto's offence has shown plenty of pop this season but the bullpen has had some trouble keeping leads. There have been a few injury concerns over the first six weeks but there is still a feeling the team can get the results it wants.

"I think last year we were a .500 team that was lucky to be .500. This year I feel like we're a .500 team that should be five or six games over," Dickey said Wednesday at a promotional event in the city's west end. "That's a whole different feeling. If we can stay healthy and if we can pitch — and those are two big ifs — I think we're going to be in it at the very end and have an opportunity to give this city what it's longed for for 21 years." THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

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NHL. Shanny bringing rare patient perspective to Leafs

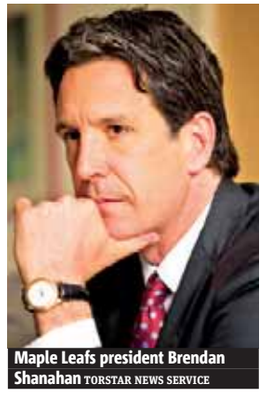
Brendan Shanahan came to the Maple Leafs as an agent of change at a time of deep despair within Toronto's fan base.

If the new team president has changed anything, it is a sudden ability to stay the course. And the patient approach is a very new, almost radical — if currently unpopular — notion for the Maple Leafs.

The coach, Randy Carlyle, didn't get fired after that trainwreck of a season. He got a two-year extension. The captain, Dion Phaneuf, will retain his C, despite a perceived lack of leadership within a room that has collapsed twice in the last three seasons.

The Maple Leafs, under Shanahan, are no longer a change-for-the-sake-of-change kind of team.

"Some want big sweeping changes," said Shanahan, who visited Torstar News Service reporters on Wednesday. "If there is a deal or a decision to be made that is considered big and sweeping, and it's a good decision, we'll make decisions we think are right for the club.


Maple Leafs president Brendan Shanahan TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"If there is great opportunity for this team and we make it, we make it because it's a great opportunity for this team and it happens to be tomorrow. It will be the quality of the decisions, not the timing."

As for changing the culture of the team, he said: "It's a thousand little things a thousand different times. That's not something you change in 30 days, or six months, or maybe even a year." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Using the Metro News app, scan this image to view some of the scenes from this year's Giro d'Italia.

Ulissi gets 5th-stage victory

The pack begins the fifth stage of the Giro d'Italia, leaving Taranto, Italy, for Viggiano, Italy, on Wednesday. A powerful final burst from Diego Ulissi helped the Italian cyclist win the stage while Australian rider Michael Matthews retained the overall leader's pink jersey.

FABIO FERRARI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Kerr shrugs off Big Apple for California

The Golden State Warriors have won the bidding war with the New York Knicks for Steve Kerr.

Kerr agreed to a five-year, $25-million deal on Wednesday, his agent Mike Tannenbaum said.

Kerr was in talks with the Knicks after Phil Jackson took over as team president. He won three titles playing for Jackson in Chicago and another two with Gregg Popovich in San Antonio, but has never been a head coach.

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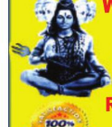

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Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

3			8	5	6			9
	9				1	7		
				2				
8		2					3	
	6	7				8	9	
	5					4		7
				6				
		9	4				8	
5			1	7	9			4

Yesterday's Sudoku

8	6	1	7	9	5	2	3	4
3	2	7	1	4	6	9	5	8
4	9	5	3	8	2	6	1	7
5	7	9	8	2	4	3	6	1
6	4	2	5	1	3	7	8	9
1	3	8	9	6	7	5	4	2
2	5	3	4	7	1	8	9	6
9	1	6	2	5	8	4	7	3
7	8	4	6	3	9	1	2	5

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
People respond better to charm than to threats, so use the power of Venus in your sign to work your way around their defenses. You need to know when to exert pressure and when to stand back.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
There may be a clash of wills today but at least it will clear the air and remind certain people that just because you're a nice guy does not mean you are a pushover. This is your time of year and much is still possible.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You won't be short of friends today, tomorrow and over the weekend as Mercury, your ruler, links with Venus, planet of harmony. What you do with others will be more enjoyable than what you do by yourself.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
It's OK to be forceful but sometimes you push too hard and turn people off. That should not be a problem today though as you find new ways to get along with work colleagues and people in positions of power. It's all about charm.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
No matter how many things may have gone wrong in your life in recent weeks your luck will change for the better today. Actually luck has little to do with it. It's your attitude that creates your world. Start smiling and winning again.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Make it a priority to kiss and make up with someone you fell out with a while back. Most likely you are genuinely sorry you got angry about something that, with hindsight, looks absurdly trivial.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Let the people you feel closest to know how much you need them and appreciate them and love them. It's not true that Librans lack emotion and anyone who thinks that will have no choice but to think again over the next 24 hours.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You could fall out with a work colleague or someone in authority today. It's OK to fight your corner, of course, but be sure in your mind that you are right and they are wrong. If there's any doubt it might be wise to back off.

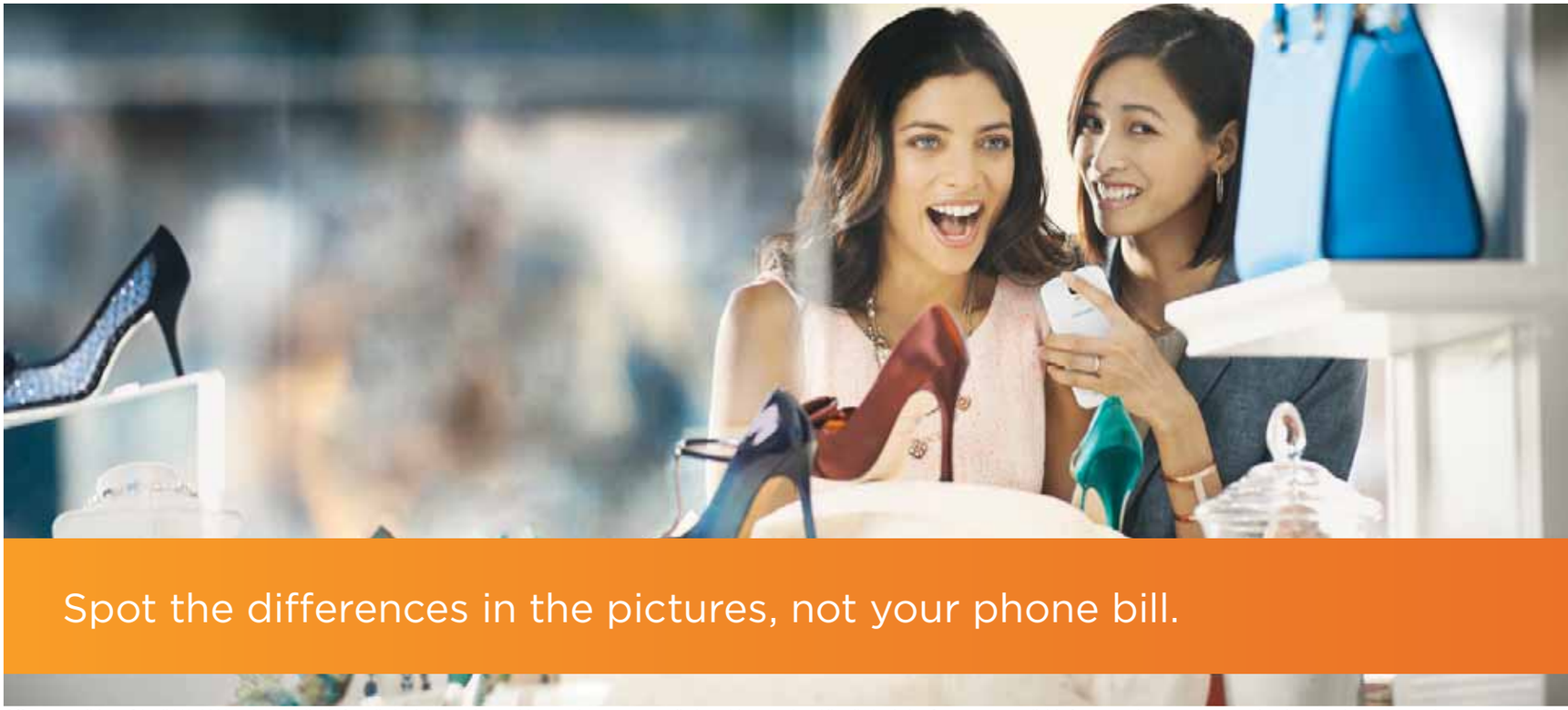
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You seem more relaxed about life and affairs of the heart. You also seem a lot less concerned with what others think about what you are doing. If it feels right to you, carry on.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
All sorts of opportunities are opening up for you now but they will be a lot more fun if you invite family and friends to join you on your journey. Make sure what you do for yourself you do also for the people care for.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Someone new will come into your life today. Is it a true love match or is it just a passing fancy? You may not know for sure until later in the year but if it's making you smile now it can't be all bad. Enjoy!

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Business affairs will go better today if you turn on the charm and let would-be partners know you are happy to work with them. There's more than enough profit to go around, so don't be greedy.

SALLY BROMPTON



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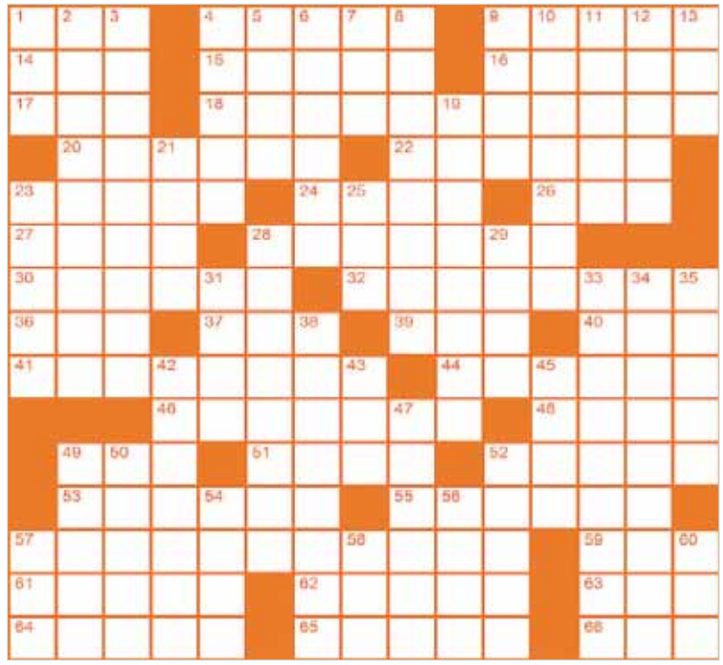
OFFER ENDS SOON

Yesterday's Crossword

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across

1. Between G-J keyboard letter, repeated
4. Groups, briefly
9. Poet's 'close by'
14. Ghoul's cry!
15. Swift descent
16. British singer Emeli
17. Internet's 'incidentally'
18. 1969 Guess Who album: 2 wds.
20. Picasso's fashionable daughter
22. Smooth
23. Sacha Baron Cohen character
24. Pop __ (Archie Comics character)
26. Hillary Clinton was a Sen. here
27. Solar deity, variantly
28. Continue: 2 wds.
30. Get married: 3 wds.
32. Canadian singer Victoria (See #57-Across for more!)
36. '90s judge Lance
37. Mr. Waxman's
39. Radio output, briefly
40. __-disant (Self-styled)
41. Rice alternative
44. Escalate: 2 wds.
46. Shrines
48. Skating great Ms. Thomas
49. Oklahoma city
51. Glow
52. Actress Dianna
53. Hair dryer brand
55. Boucherville 'boat'
57. Line in #32-Across' new single "More Than Friends" that's quite fitting for a crossword: "We fit together like a __ __..."
59. Utmost degree
61. Rob
62. Doesn't __ __ expected (Finishes in a stunning way)
63. Energy
64. Brains
65. Posh 'no'
66. Years: French

Down

1. Fireplace shelf
2. Passing-an-object quickly game: 2 wds.
3. "What's new?": 3 wds.
4. Tie type
5. Used the pool
6. Piano piece
7. __ sequitur
8. Range
9. "..._ __ forgive those who trespass..."
10. NWT: __ National Park Reserve
11. Hostile human
12. All in _ __ work
13. Former mil. General's abbr.
19. "The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz" (1974) star Richard
21. Ms. O'Grady
23. General
25. 'Dull' suffix
28. __-Britannique (Pacific province, in French)
29. "The Pride __ __. Louis" (1952)
31. Fish kind
33. Jazz singer Ms. Spalding
34. Christian __ (Red-soled shoes luxury brand)
35. Use, as party platter sauce: 2 wds.
38. Dog or cat (or bird, hamster, etc.) for a comic book caped hero type: 2 wds.
42. Poem parts
43. Mid-'70s kidnappers
45. Fringe
47. In-a-military-unit war correspondents
49. Intense
50. Twelve
52. "Time is _ __ of trouble..." - Emily Dickinson
54. Ballet move, Pas __
56. Open _ __ of worms
57. Letter-writer's li'l afterthoughts
58. Magician's name suffix
60. Some printers, e.g.

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ANSWERS: 1. Shoe is a new colour; 2. The phone is a different colour; 3. Extra bead is added to necklace; 4. The top of the glass jar is removed; 5. The bracelet is removed.

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HWY: 5.8L/100 KM CITY: 8.5L/100 KM▼

SE w/ Tech model shown♦
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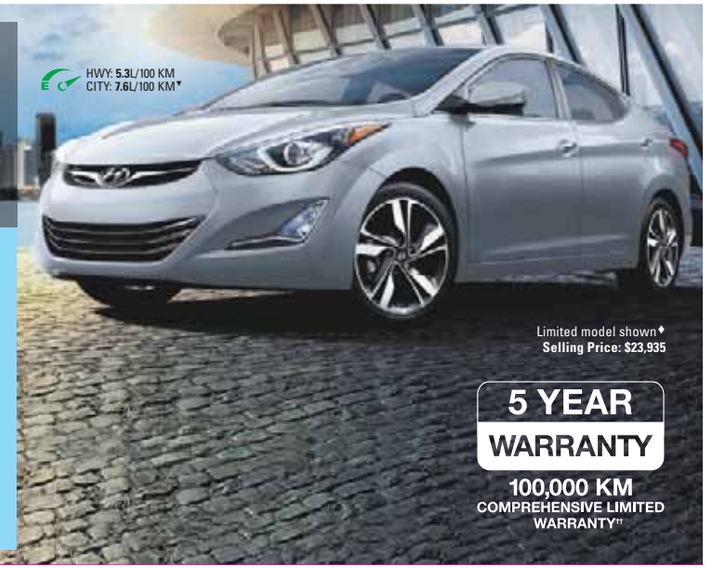

HWY: 5.3L/100 KM CITY: 7.6L/100 KM▼

Limited model shown♦
Selling Price: $23,935

5 YEAR WARRANTY
100,000 KM COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY††

HWY: 5.3L/100 KM CITY: 7.5L/100 KM▼

GLS model shown♦
Selling Price: $19,415

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ACCENT L 4-DOOR MANUAL. DEALER INVOICE PRICE INCLUDES $783 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS^Ω, FEES (UP TO $499), DELIVERY AND DESTINATION.

HWY: 7.3L/100 KM CITY: 10.2L/100 KM▼

Limited model shown♦
Selling Price: $38,584

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PLUS

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5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty††
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